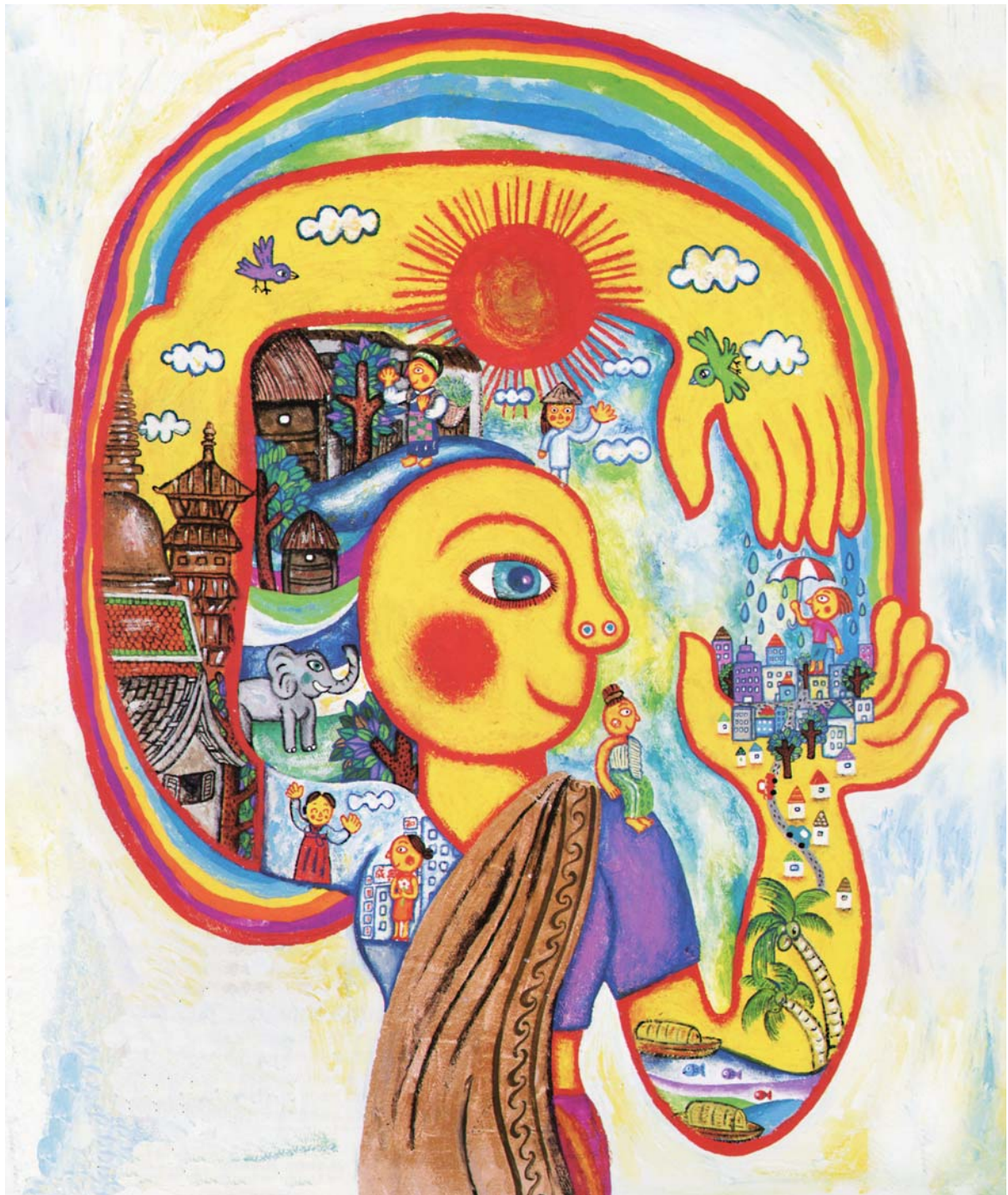


TOWARDS WOMEN FRIENDLY CITIES



UN-HABITAT

Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
April 2007



The maps, designations and material presented in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontier or boundaries, or regarding its economic system or degree of development. The analysis, conclusions and recommendations of the report do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).

This publication has been issued without formal editing. All material from this publication may be freely quoted or reprinted, but acknowledgement is requested, together with a copy of the publication containing the quotation or reprint.

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT):
Towards Women-Friendly Cities

First published
ISBN XX-X-XXXXXX-X
HS/XXX/XXX

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)
P.O. Box 30030
Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: (254-2) 621234
Fax: (254-2) 226886

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
ACROS Fukuoka 8th Floor,
1-1-1 Tenjin, Chuo-ku,
Fukuoka 810-0001, Japan
Tel: (81-92) 724-7121
Fax: (81-92) 724-7124

Table of Contents

Foreword	4
Director’s Message	6
Acknowledgements	7
Glossary of frequently used terms	8
<div style="margin-left: 40px;">Public Forum</div> <div style="margin-left: 40px;">Award Ceremony</div> <div style="margin-left: 40px;">Panel Discussion</div>	
Introduction to the EGM on Gender and Women’s Issues in Human Settlements	
	10
Kasuga Statement on Gender and Women’s Issues in Human Settlements	
	12
Presentations	
<i>Women-friendly governance and relevant cases</i>	
Ms.Lucia Kiwala, Ms.Sri Husnaini Sofjan, Ms.Mom Sandap, Ms.Sharmila Gonawela, Ms.Taeko Funakoshi, Dr.Bernadette Resurreccion, Dr.Hamida Noori	
	16
<i>Security of tenure and relevant cases</i>	
Mr.Jan Meeuwissen, Ms.Devi Nova Wahyuni, Ms.Reeva Sood, Ms.Lajana Manandhar, Ms.Teresa Banaynal-Fernandez, Dr. Toshinobu Fujii	
	28
Overview of the First Contest for Women-friendly Cities, Asia-Pacific	
	37
Selected examples from participating cities	
	40
Award Ceremony and Public Forum: “Towards Women-friendly Cities”	
	42
Annexe I: Indicators for Women-friendly Cities	
	82
Annexe II: List of participants	
	90

Foreword

The issue of gender in human settlements lies at the meeting point of two great struggles. On the one hand, the ongoing challenge of securing healthy, stable places for people to live, a challenge UN-Habitat is fully involved in. We recognise this challenge when we talk about achieving “a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020”, the target mentioned in the Millennium Development Goals. On the other hand, women’s continuing struggle for equality, in all spheres of life, recognised in the Beijing Declaration of 1995. How are we to meet these twin challenges?

Our answer must be this: if we wish to improve the lives of 100 million slum dwellers, we must involve women. Correspondingly, if we wish to achieve greater equality for women, we must empower them to build healthy and stable places for themselves. These two challenges are intimately linked –and indeed must be tackled simultaneously. There is a pressing need for a gender perspective on human settlements issues in the Asia-Pacific region. Countries in the region continue to experience rapid rates of urbanisation. The rate of urban population growth in Asia is 2.7% per annum, or 27% higher than the global average. Asia’s urban population is expected to double by 2020. These high rates of growth make the problems faced by urban populations more pressing. In particular, they have a disproportionate effect on women. Women make up the majority of the urban poor, and so questions about gender issues in human settlements become ever more important to the larger issues of urbanisation and the feminisation of poverty. There is, therefore, an ever-greater need for gender mainstreaming: to integrate, and take into consideration, women and men’s diverse roles, responsibilities and opportunities, as an integral part of all forms of development and political processes.

Making gender an integral part of human settlements links with UN Habitat’s wider objective of promoting inclusive cities. Since the turn of the century, UN-Habitat’s Urban Governance Campaign has been advocating norms of good governance. Cities that successfully incorporate gender concerns; cities that become ever more women-friendly – these cities are making progress in becoming more inclusive.

Yet in making gender an integral part of human settlements, we must be careful that the lack of a separate local government division or unit for gender-related issues does not mean a lack of concern for women’s issues and gender inequality. We should always be very aware of the gendered aspects of work in human settlements.

Too few people have an idea what a woman-friendly city is, or what women's issues are involved in human settlements. This publication gives an introduction to the issue, gives expert analysis, and provides ways to measure how women friendly a city is. It is intended for all those working in human settlements as well as those responsible for gender equality and the advancement of women at all levels: the urban poor, women's groups, professional associations, academics, practitioners, those working for NGOs, municipalities and ministries of women's affairs, local government, water, housing, transport and works. I hope that by reading this publication, more people will come to understand how we can move "Towards Women-Friendly Cities".

Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka
Executive Director
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)



Director's Message

UN-Habitat is committed to mainstreaming gender in all its undertakings. In 2004, the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in 2004 carried out a 'Women Friendly Cities in Asia and the Pacific' Awards Process, Expert Group Meeting and Public Forums chronicled herein. Shortly thereafter, Japanese language proceedings of the events were published through the gracious collaboration of the Japan Habitat Association.

As a part of our collective effort to consolidate knowledge during this year's tenth year anniversary, and in response to interest in the Japanese language 2004 proceedings, this English language version of the proceedings has been completed this year. We think that while the events were held three years ago, the core messages and the lessons learned from them are still very relevant today. For accessibility, individual summaries have been made in 'Public Forum' section, with an effort to preserve the depth of speakers' commentary.

This year, we are launching a 2007 "Gender Friendly Sustainable Cities in Asia and the Pacific", whereby we have chosen to replicate the 2004 programme with several expansions. The 2007 programme builds upon the success and lessons of 2004 while extending the timeframe, expanding into knowledge management, and setting the focus for the Expert Group Meeting on gender mainstreaming in post-conflict recovery and post-disaster reconstruction.

I am pleased to present the 2004 "Women Friendly Cities Proceedings" not only as a tool for reflecting on gender related concerns and needs in development, but also as a means of examining the empowerment of women in Asian and Pacific cities, assuring their role and contribution as agents of change within their respective communities, especially in all decisions affecting their livelihoods.

Toshiyasu NODA
Director
UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific



Acknowledgments

This series of gender related activities in the region including the organisation of the First Contest, Expert Group Meeting, and Public Forum, as well as the development of Indicators on Women-friendly Cities was made possible by a collaborative effort by the UN-Habitat Fukuoka Office, UNFEM East and Southeast Asia Office and Urban Management Programme – Asia-Pacific (UMP-Asia), in collaboration with UN-ESCAP, UNDP-TUGI (The Urban Governance Initiative), the IULA (International Unit of Local Authorities), CITYNET (Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements), and the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) Gender and Development Unit, with local hosts the Fukuoka Prefectural Women's Centre (Asubaru), the Fukuoka Women's Centre (Amikas), and the Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women (KFAW), and with support from the Japanese Ministry of General Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Land, Construction and Transport, Fukuoka Prefecture, and Fukuoka City.

In particular, the Gender Responsive Local Governments – the First Asia-Pacific Contest was made possible through a generous financial contribution from UNIFEM East and Southeast Asia, the Urban Management Programme for Asia and the Pacific (UMP-AP), Global Campaign on Urban Governance, and UN-Habitat Fukuoka.

The Contest was made possible by the hard work and dedication of a panel of jurors, comprising Ms. Mitchiko Nakamura, (UNIFEM Japan), Ms. Bernadette P Resurreccion (Gender & Development Studies, Asian Institute of Technology/Urban Management Programme), Ms. Lucia Kiwala (Gender Mainstreaming Unit, UN-HABITAT), Ms. Anne Michaud (Femmes et Villes [Women and Cities]), Ms. Tessie Fernandez (Lihok Pilipina Foundation), Ms. Patricia Palacios (Urban Management Programme, Latin America and the Caribbean [PGU-ALC / UMP-LAC]), Ms. Ross Irwin (Southern Cross University [representing the International Union of Local Authorities]-IULA), Ms. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, CITYNET, and Mr. Ramanath Jha, UMP South Asia.

The preparation and printing of this publication were made possible through the contribution of the Global Campaign on Urban Governance. The report was compiled and edited by Ms. Mariko Sato, Ms. Lowie Rosales, Mr. Wataru Kawasaki, Mr. Chris Hanretty, and Ms. Cecilia Lipp with much help and input from EGM participants, the Gender Unit, the team of Global Campaign on Urban Governance as well as the staff of UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

Glossary of Terms

Beijing Platform for Action:

An agenda for achieving women's empowerment. It was agreed at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995. A follow up to that meeting, called Beijing +5, was held in June 2000 in New York. Participants reviewed progress made in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, and obstacles to further implementation. A second follow-up meeting – Beijing +10 - will be held sometime in 2005 to review the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and agree the way forward.

Empowerment, women's empowerment:

When women are empowered, they have the capacity and inner will to improve their situation and gain control over their own lives. This can lead to an equal share in economic and political decision-making, and control of economic resources.

Gender, gender responsive:

"The term 'gender' refers to economic, social and cultural attributes and opportunities associated with being male or female" and the social relationships between women and men, girls and boys. These attributes and opportunities are learned through the process of socialisation and can be changed over time. To be gender responsive is to recognise and respond to these different attributes.

Gender mainstreaming:

Gender mainstreaming is a process where one assesses the implications for women and men, of any planned action, at any area and at all levels, whether it is a piece of legislation, a policy, or a particular programme.

Gender disaggregated data:

Gender disaggregated data is data that displays information for both men and women separately (disaggregated), not together (aggregated).

Informal sector, informal economy:

The system of exchange used outside state-controlled or money-based economic activities. The informal economy consists of barter, mutual self-help, odd jobs, allotment farming, street trading, and other similar activities.

Institutionalisation:

A process to create rules or structures that govern the implementation of a given process. This can be contrasted to informal processes, where participants agree between themselves how to continue a process, without agreeing to any specific rules or structures.

Micro-finance:

“To most, microfinance means providing very poor families with very small loans (micro-credit) to help them engage in productive activities or grow their tiny businesses. Over time, microfinance has come to include a broader range of services (credit, savings, insurance, etc.) as we have come to realize that the poor and the very poor who lack access to traditional formal financial institutions require a variety of financial products”.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):

A set of 8 goals that all 191 UN member states have pledged to meet by 2015.

These include targets on poverty reduction, education, gender equality, and other areas. [UN Millenium Campaign](#)

Secure tenure:

“A person or a household has secure tenure when they are protected from involuntary removal from their land or residence, except in exceptional circumstances, and then only by means of a known and agreed legal procedure...”

Urban governance:

“Urban governance is the sum of the many ways individuals and institutions, public and private, plan and manage the common affairs of the city. It is a continuing process through which conflicting or diverse interests may be accommodated and cooperative action can be taken. It includes formal institutions as well as informal arrangements”.

Women-friendly city:

A city is women-friendly if it is committed to women’s equality; if it recognises the different needs and resources women need and can in turn provide; if it involves women at all levels of urban governance and decision making, and if it provides safe and secure places for women to live, work and bring up families.

Introduction to the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Gender and Women's Issues in Human Settlements

On the 9th and 10th of March 2004, an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Gender and Women's Issues in Human Settlements was held in Kasugabaru, Japan. The EGM was part of a week-long series of events focusing on gender organized by the UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Participants debated and discussed issues in the field of human settlements. More than that, they debated and discussed these issues from a gender perspective. Of course, they discussed housing, transportation, how to involve local communities, and the structure and capacity of local governments. Yet at the same time, they went beyond asking about information-gathering, participation, structures and feasibility, and asked: how do we gather information about women? how will women participate? and what structures benefit and are most feasible for women?

This EGM recognizes and builds upon work already done by UN-HABITAT. This is the second Expert Group Meeting on Gender and Women's Issues in Human Settlements. The first such EGM was held in Nairobi, Kenya, on the 18th – 20th February 2003, organized by UN-HABITAT's Gender Mainstreaming Unit with the financial support of the Government of Norway. It focused on six thematic issues. The recent EGM focused on two of those issues: security of tenure, and women-friendly urban governance. These two areas are particularly important to the Asia-Pacific region and also particularly important to UN-HABITAT. First, targeting security of tenure is an important way of achieving Millennium Development Goal 7, Target 11, the target most closely related to UN-HABITAT's mission. Second, in targeting women-friendly urban governance, the EGM links with the first Asia-Pacific Contest for Women-Friendly Cities, held throughout 2003 and 2004, with the award winners recognised in Fukuoka, Japan on the 8th of March 2004.

This Women-Friendly Cities contest originated in Latin America, and its replication in the Asia Pacific region shows how regions are learning from each other. EGM participants also learned, studying the efforts made by the three award winning cities. This shared learning is reflected in one of the outputs of the EGM, the production of a new and improved set of indicators that will be used to judge future competitions for women-friendly cities. The indicators try to gauge just how far cities have progressed in becoming women-friendly.

EGM participants produced these revised indicators during their two days in Kasuga. The first day of the EGM focused on *women-friendly governance*. Presentations started with a

recap of the current situation regarding women-friendly governance, and a general overview of the field, before moving onto specific examples from throughout Asia. In the afternoon, participants discussed a set of indicators for Women-friendly Cities.

On the second day, the focus shifted to *security of tenure*. Again, presentations began with a general overview of the field, before moving on to specific cases. In the afternoon, participants had an extremely productive discussion session on security of tenure. This discussion and the previous day's discussion on women-friendly governance were used in formulating the statement that follows.

This statement is one of the outputs of the EGM. It lists thirty-one points for UN-HABITAT and other groups working in the area of human settlements. Some of these points are solely applicable to UN-HABITAT: most are for wider use by practitioners, women's groups and local governments. These recommendations were drawn from participants' presentations at the EGM, and their informal discussions. Examples in the main text illustrate these recommendations. Both the statement and the examples they were drawn from can be used alongside the revised Indicators for Women-friendly Cities at the end of the booklet.

Kasuga Statement on Gender and Women's Issues in Human Settlements

We, the experts in attendance at this Kasuga Expert Group Meeting (EGM), held on the 9th and 10th of March 2004, who have come from eight countries and four international organizations, have gathered here to build on existing efforts to date to further the advancement of women in the area of human settlements and urban local governments. We note the work done by the previous EGM on Gender and Women's Issues in Human Settlements held in Nairobi, Kenya, in February 2003. At that meeting, it was resolved to create future forums for sharing information and future recommendations. Therefore, we have met to discuss a wide range of gender and women's issues in human settlements, focusing on women and governance and security of tenure, with the aim of achieving Women-friendly Cities.

We have heard presentations detailing women's experiences with regard to governance and tenure in a variety of Asian countries. We note that although there are many cities that have made considerable efforts to become more women-friendly, there are many cities that have not; and that there are still many practices clearly disadvantageous to women's security of tenure and their opportunities to succeed in urban local governance.

We recognize the need to change these practices and encourage more cities to become genuinely women-friendly. We recognize the need to advocate existing women's organizations to raise human settlements issue in the context of gender. We also recognize the need to mobilize stakeholders, including governments, to realize the importance of gender issues in human settlements as a vital step in achieving Millennium Development Goal 7, Target 11, to which 189 governments agreed, and also in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action.

WOMEN-FRIENDLY GOVERNANCE

On the issue of women-friendly governance, we **note** the following:

1. The importance of explicitly stated bylaws, municipal acts, codes and rules at the city-level, enabling women to participate in local governance.
2. That political commitments to gender issues, from, for example, city mayors, are important, and are substantiated by budgetary commitments and budget allocations which target women's needs and mainstream gender issues within urban management.

3. That building the capacity of community and local government to deal with women's issues in human settlements, including training and peer-learning from proven practices, is a key step forward for change.
4. That women's needs are diverse: the needs of the rich and poor, of the educated and un-educated, of those who are likely to have their voice heard and those who are not, are different and require different responses.
5. That an increase in women's political representation is not an automatic result of economic development. Women's participation in politics and decision-making must be actively encouraged.

We **recommend** the following **strategies** to UN-Habitat and its partners:

6. When dealing with *institutional and legal matters*: for women to make a greater contribution to city planning and management, relevant community and women's organizations need to be strengthened and allocated adequate resources and support.
7. That participatory processes and mechanisms which reflect the voices of women in city planning need to be institutionalized through mechanisms such as gender-responsive city consultations, gender analysis, planning and budgeting, and supporting local-to-local dialogues.
8. When *creating strategies*: innovative ways of forging partnerships between local government, women's affairs ministries and women's groups, and between professional women and grass-roots women, should be developed. For example, retreats for local government officials and women's groups to interact; giving professional women the chance to live in slums and live with the groups they are trying to help.
9. That the women's constituency should be strengthened to push women into politics and the wider decision-making process.
10. That partnerships between women councillors and women's groups should be strengthened, and that proven and grounded grass roots practices be upscaled in order to sustain a positive impact.
11. Those human settlements issues should be incorporated into the women's agenda, by advocating and supporting more women's groups to work in the area of human settlements, and also by working with national women's machineries, NGOs, and other institutions that already deal with women's issues.
12. When *advocating these issues*, partners can work with local governments to help them articulate their gender concerns to women's affairs ministries and national

women's organizations, and in so doing make gender issues in human settlements a part of the national agenda

13. That partners should mobilize the media to increase understanding on human settlements issues and its importance to gender issues.
14. That women's groups working in the area of human settlements should be strengthened; and that a trust fund should be set up to support such groups.

Secure Tenure

On the issue of secure tenure, we **note** that:

15. That a clear political commitment to improving the living conditions of slum-dwellers can be a useful tool in raising awareness of housing issues among poor women, and in helping women achieve security of tenure.
16. Urban violence against women, which is associated with shelter, housing, settlement safety and design, affect women's lives. In particular, women and children are disproportionately affected by evictions and urban poverty.
17. That micro-finance mechanisms, such as loans, credit facilities, mortgage schemes and savings programmes, have been important in successfully developing women-friendly communities in Nepal, India and Thailand
18. That micro-finance schemes can go beyond savings for land and housing, and into broader and more holistic sectors such as solid waste management and building up economic enterprise, areas which women can benefit from and which promote economic independence of women in families and communities.
19. That Habitat is in the process of establishing a Shelter Facility, which will disburse money through various levels in various countries.

We therefore **recommend** the following to UN-HABITAT and partner agencies:

20. That when forced evictions take place, agencies working with evictees should strengthen the solidarity of community members, their ability to negotiate with authorities on various measures including moratorium and providing temporary shelter, alternatives and emergency support, and protecting women from violence against women such as rape.
21. That UN-HABITAT should provide principles and guidelines on the use of micro-finance schemes to support cost housing for the urban poor women.
22. That where a micro-finance scheme offers loans for housing or business development, it should not offer 100% loans, and thereby reduce the will of savers to

put money away as collateral; they should also include strong enforcement mechanisms to ensure loans are repaid, not viewed as “free money”.

23. That city council and local government should be encouraged to become involved in and to support micro-finance schemes focusing on improving the living conditions of the urban poor, either by providing land and technical support for housing-related micro-finance schemes (as in Uganda), by supplying initial funds for micro-finance schemes to use to provide credit facilities (as in Kathmandu) or by providing a regulatory framework for such schemes.

We **recommend** the following **monitoring steps** to UN-HABITAT and partner agencies:

24. That when agencies are sharing best practices on gender issues in human settlements, they should recognize the steps “how” the best practice has been implemented, not only “what” happened; and that best practice should be disseminated, and replication encouraged, as has happened with the First Contest for Women-friendly Governments, Asia-Pacific.
25. That gender-disaggregated data should be collected, and gender-responsive research be carried out.
26. That qualitative information on the impact of women’s representation in politics should be monitored, as well as quantitative information on the extent of women’s representation.
27. That data giving a “snapshot” of a city’s progress towards becoming women-friendly should be taken, enabling stakeholders to see what steps remain.
28. That future contests for women friendly cities and related activities should also involve countries from the Pacific region.

On the issue of **UN-HABITAT’s future activities**, we **recommend** the following to UN-HABITAT:

29. That questionnaires for the next contest for Women-friendly Cities, Asia-Pacific, be expanded and translated into different languages.
30. That UN-HABITAT National Committees be revived and that they be encouraged to work for women friendly governance and security of tenure
31. That UN-HABITAT should use the review of the implementation of Beijing platform to mainstream the role of women in achieving MDG (goal 7 target 11), to improve the lives of at least 100 slum dwellers by 2020; and that UN-HABITAT should be part of the preparatory process leading to Beijing +10 in 2005.

Expert Group Meeting (EGM) Presentations

Women-friendly Governance and Relevant Cases

Ms. Lucia Kiwala

Chief of the Gender Mainstreaming Unit, UN-HABITAT

The Kasuga EGM followed a previous EGM on gender and issues in human settlements, held in Nairobi, Kenya, on the 18 – 20th February 2003. Therefore, it was only fitting that the first presentation should be a recap of that meeting. **Ms. Lucia Kiwala**, Chief of the Gender Mainstreaming Unit at UN-HABITAT, started by speaking about the range of issues discussed at the EGM. She spoke about a particular view of human settlements as merely “bricks and mortar”, and why this view is misleading. First, the range of subjects covered by the term “human settlements” covers much more than buildings, spanning a wide range of issues such as transport, tenure, the informal economy, use of natural resources, and the capacity of local groups to use those resources. Second, even where concrete resources or “bricks and mortar” exist, citizens, especially women, may not have access to these resources. Where women have access, they may not have control. And where they have control, they may not have ownership.

What were the key challenges the EGM identified in human settlements,

understood in this broader sense? Ms. Kiwala mentioned several issues, among them: a limited number of women’s groups working in human settlements, compared to those working on health or education; the small number of women represented in local governments and planning departments; a lack of gender-disaggregated data and gender responsive research, and national women’s machineries that pay little or no attention to human settlements issues, particularly the plight of slum dwellers.

“Let us try to be strategic enough to recruit... more women’s organisations that understand the needs

Ms. Kiwala suggested some responses to these challenges. First, UN-HABITAT, and its partner organisations, should attempt to recruit more women’s groups working in the area of human settlements. **[See recommendation 11].**

Beijing Platform:

"The Beijing Declaration and its Platform for Action (PfA) were the outcome documents adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in September 1995... The two primary concerns [were] 1) to... flag the importance of its aim to improve women's rights and gender equality, and 2) to identify the critical areas of concern for the continuing process.

The most important aspect of the Platform for Action and its forward-looking strategies was the commitment to integrating a gender perspective in developing all aspects and spheres of society. This commitment to integrate, and take into consideration, women and men's diverse roles, responsibilities and opportunities in all forms of development and political processes has been labelled "*gender mainstreaming*" and is today the agreed overall strategy internationally to achieve the goal of gender equality.

In most countries today, governments have therefore developed national plans of action linked to the Platform for Action. In June 2000, a Special Session [Beijing + 5] was held in order to follow up on the progress made of the national level in implementing the Platform for Action." [A further follow up session, Beijing +10, will be held in 2005].

(Source: <http://www.unhabitat.org/programmes/genderpolicy/beijing.asp>)

Second, women's groups working in the area of human settlements should use the strategic opportunities presented by international developments such as the review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Beijing +10 process to put human settlements issues firmly on the women's agenda at all levels [**See Recommendation 31**]. For this to

happen, these groups can lobby UN-Regional Economic Commissions, women's affairs ministries and key NGOs involved in this review process and advocate for incorporation of human settlements issues into the next 10 year plans for women. The use of the slum estimates, gender-disaggregated data and gender responsive research becomes essential.

Ms. Sri Husnaini Sofjan

Regional Programme Manager, The Urban Governance Initiative (TUGI), UNDP

Making sure women's demands are incorporated into national and/or local agendas will not be easy. It will require good *governance*, not just good governments. **Ms. Sri Husnaini Sofjan's** presentation offered a way of looking at governance as a tripod, resting on three 'legs': the state, civil society, and the private sector.

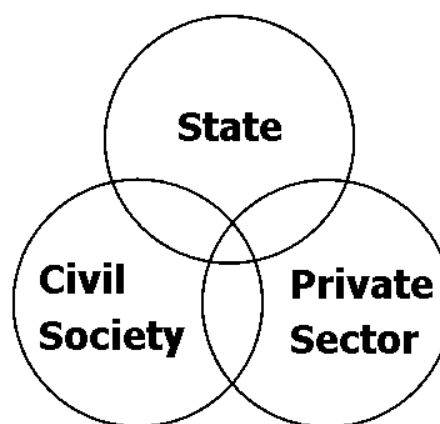
Where balance exists between these three sectors, *good governance* is possible. Where women are empowered and play a role in each sector, then *women-friendly governance* is possible. Ms. Husnaini Sofjan further noted that good governance displays 11 characteristics, among them¹:

- citizen participation
- consensus orientation
- equity
- effectiveness and efficiency
- responsiveness
- transparency and accountability
- sustainability
- subsidiarity
- security (safety)
- strategic vision
- rule of law

Governance that displays these characteristics will be able to respond better to global trends affecting governance: rural to urban migration,

¹ Source: <http://magnet.undp.org/policy/chapter1.htm>

Good Governance



ever-larger cities, and the growth of the informal sector of the economy.

Where women-friendly governance exists, what should it focus on? One focus should be basic services such as “water, sanitation and waste management”, which women tend to deal with more than men. At the same time, women-friendly governance should focus on issues of equity and equality for women in terms of resources, supports, mechanisms and processes. It was also noted that certain international instruments – such as the Worldwide Declaration on Women in Local Government – have provided important entry points into discussing these issues at the local level. Women friendly governance should also focus on security of tenure, which, as we shall

see, links extensively with other items on the women's agenda.

What can we do to promote this women-friendly governance? We need to understand "how decisions are reached, and fully utilize the pressure that makes politics work for us". [See **Recommendation 9**]. Working with new generations of female leaders in women friendly governance processes,

we can implement a gender-sensitive agenda.

Sometimes women want to get out of politics because they say it is dirty. But if we use politics and the power that comes with it, it is very powerful".

- Sri Husnaini Sofjan

World-wide Declaration on Women in Local Government

The Worldwide Declaration on Women in Local Government... has been ratified in over 28 countries, including 23 national associations who have ratified on behalf of all their member local governments.

The underlying argument of the Declaration is that gender equality is good for women, but that it is also good for men and for local government. Increasing the number of women in local government, and keeping the needs of women in mind when developing policies and services, is essential to achieving development goals.

'Local government is an integral part of the national structures of governance and the level of government closest to the citizens. Therefore it is in the best position both to involve women in the making of decisions concerning their living conditions and to make use of their knowledge and capabilities in the promotion of sustainable development.' (Worldwide Declaration on Women in Local Government, 1998)

Ms. Mom Sandap

Director, Planning Department of the Municipality

Ms. Mom Sandap spoke of her experience as Director of the Planning Department of the Municipality of Phnom Penh. She gave information on the general situation in Phnom Penh,

Cambodia's largest city, with a population of around one million people.

She noted many of the trends recognised in other presentations. Women make up a large part of the non-industrial economy, with women constituting 65% of agricultural labour and 75% of labour in fisheries. Cambodian women are also traditionally responsible for maintaining the home

environment. The large number of

have low self-confidence and lack the capacity to argue their case forcefully.

Political Commitments to Improving the Lives of Female Slum Dwellers

In Cambodia, on the occasion of the Urban Poor Development Fund fifth anniversary, Prime Minister H.E. Hun Sen came to a gathering of NGOs and local communities to announce that his government had agreed to upgrade one hundred settlements each year. Now that the Prime Minister has shown the extent of political support behind the slum upgrading project, previous slum upgrading work done by local communities can move ahead rapidly - showing how government can, by its political commitment, empower grass-roots organizations. And now the local government will need to implement this challenging commitment.

In the Philippines, President Gloria Macagapal Arroyo has declared July "Good Urban Governance Month". Joined by mayors from more than forty cities, she made a commitment to the norms of good urban governance. At that same meeting, 16 female city mayors gathered to discuss gender-oriented activities they would like to pursue, thus giving a gender-responsive edge to this political commitment.

In Thailand, King Bhumibol Adulyadej has also worked to improve living conditions in urban areas, particularly in the field of water management. His activities led to him being given the Habitat Scroll of Honour Award in 2004. Since women usually bear the burden of providing clean water for families, His

women involved in the informal sector has been recognised by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), who, in conjunction with the Urban Management Programme and its regional anchor institution, the Asian Institute for Technology (AIT/UMP-AIT), have organised training workshops in Phnom Penh on the informal economy.

However, certain problems to achieving women friendly governance were also noted. Women are rarely present in the upper levels of academic, technical or vocational education. Women leaders

Consequently, there are few women involved in politics. One particularly notable fact was that out of 1321 district governments in Cambodia, there are no female district chiefs. However, there are also many encouraging signs. On women friendly governance at the national level, the Royal government has encouraged parties to place women on their electoral lists in positions that will allow them a fair chance of being elected. On the local level, half of the members of the Phnom Penh planning and budget committee are female.

On security of tenure, the Cambodian Prime Minister's commitment to upgrade

100 slums a year was also taken as an important sign of the central government's commitment to these issues. This bolstered one of the

recommendations of the EGM – that a clear political commitment can be of great use in mainstreaming the gender agenda. **[See Recommendation 15]**

Ms. Sharmila Gonawela

Municipal Councillor, Colombo Municipal Council, Sri Lanka

Ms. Sharmila Gonawela talked of her struggles in Colombo city as one of the first female municipal council members. She echoed a theme that recurred throughout the discussions on women friendly governance – that whilst the absolute number of women represented in local government is important, it is also significant that those women advance a gender agenda. **[See Recommendation 26]**. In Colombo, this had not been the case previously. As Ms. Gonawela said, “there’s a big difference between me and [many of] the women politicians in my country... women politicians in my country belong to two categories. One, you are the widow of a political husband. Or, a daughter filling the vacancy of a dead father or retired political father. I was a fashion designer before I became a politician, I don’t belong to any of these categories”.

Ms. Gonawela sees her responsibility as doing something to improve “the living standards of the women living in more than 6000 shanties in Colombo”. To this end, she was able to mobilise a budget of 25 million Sri Lankan Rupees (about

US\$255,000) has been allocated to develop and empower women, to improve women friendly governance, and to increase women’s representation in local government authorities. (Current projects are detailed in the box below).

It doesn’t matter what *party* women belong to... Next time, I might not be elected, but there may be women from other parties

- Sharmila Gonawela

Despite this progress, there were some obstacles to improving the situation in Colombo. Male councillors were reluctant to allow spending from the women’s budget, believing female politicians would benefit politically from using the funds. So far only 200,000 rupees out of 25 million has been released for use on the women’s projects. Ms. Gonawela narrated how, when she had asked for such basic things as a women’s toilet and a women’s project room, six members of the local council had threatened to tender their resignations. These experiences should remind us that not

all politicians want to support the gender agenda, and that strong advocacy and gender sensitivity training may be needed. **[See Recommendation 3]**

Projects Currently Active or Planned in Colombo Municipality:

- Women's desks handled by women police officers
- Training programmes for women constables
- Domestic abuse can now be reported through council maternity centres, rather than through the police station
- An anonymous advice service for women
- Workshops for local men to minimize domestic violence
- Negotiations with private bus association to provide women-only services during peak hours
- Community development councils in under-served areas, which will act as centres for savings and loans schemes and women's leadership training
- Drop-in centre for women

Ms. Taeko Funakoshi

Councillor, Kasuga City Council, Japan

The next presenter, **Ms. Taeko Funakoshi**, offered a Japanese perspective on women friendly governance in her presentation. A local councillor for the past 13 years, Ms Funakoshi welcomed participants once again to Kasuga, the city hosting the EGM. She noted the peculiar situation of Japanese women: that although they “receive higher educations than before, and have developed their abilities and power”, male dominance continues in politics. She noted that, despite coming 9th in the 2003 Human Development Index², Japan was only 44th in the

Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) which measures “gender inequality in three basic dimensions of empowerment: economic participation and decision-making, political participation and decision-making and power over economic resources”³. This gap between human development and gender empowerment should make us realise that economically advanced women are not necessarily empowered women. **[See Recommendation 5]**. However, Kasuga city is trying to counter this trend, by offering childcare centres catering to working mothers, and a “school children houses”, where school

² See

<http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2003/indicator/index.html> for results

³ See

http://www.undp.org/hdr2003/indicator/indic_207_1_1.html for details

children can play and study after school, before returning home.

Ms. Funakoshi pointed out one example of citizen involvement in the city planning process. 5 years ago, citizen's groups wished to make recommendations on city zoning decisions. The local administration accommodated their wishes by dispatching an expert adviser to assist the residents – of whom about half are women - in their work. A bill is now to be voted upon by Kasuga Council.



"Declaration of A Gender Equal City

We would like to declare "Kasuga" as a Gender Equal City, in which people care about each other as human beings, regardless of sexual differences, and in which each citizen puts him/herself in devoir to create the valuable lifestyle:

We want to realize a city where men and women respect each other, their various personalities and their life styles, irrespective of gender differences;

Where men and women shows their true potential and can take part in every aspect of society;

Where men and women are independent human beings and can have active and fulfilling lives; and,

Where men and women strive for a peaceful and valuable society and spread this hope all over the world.

Dr. Bernadette Resurreccion

Asst. Professor, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

The next presentation dealt with both aspects of women friendly governance and city planning. “*Gender Responsive Urban Management: The UMP AIT Initiative, 2001 – 2004*”, given by **Dr. Bernadette Resurreccion**, detailed a particular methodology employed by Urban Management Programme/Asian Institute of Technology (UMP/AIT)⁴, that of city consultations. The city consultation process involves three elements. The first element is gathering information on the situation in the city. Before this happens, local partners will be trained in collecting and assessing the gender disaggregated data that is so vital in city planning. **[See Recommendation 25]**. Second, once this data has been gathered, a series of consultations involving stakeholders is conducted. After these consultations, action plans targeting specific areas are drawn up, once again in consultation with local partners and stakeholders. Dr. Resurreccion offered examples from Vientiane in Laos, Phnom Penh in Cambodia, and Semarang in Indonesia, which resulted in a report on poverty amongst women, an action plan for the household economy, and

a poverty strategic action plan respectively.

It was Dr. Resurreccion’s view that the city consultation methodology could be a very useful, gender-responsive tool to be used in city planning. However, she cautioned that we cannot *assume* women will benefit from this methodology. There exist certain pre-conditions, involving organisational structure, labour conditions, the exercise of power, and governance infrastructure. Ideally, women should be organised as part of organisations with strong links to the grass-roots and experience in past civil society state relations. Such groups should be

There was a case where... residents themselves did not want a flood control infrastructure projects because... rents would go up... beyond their affordability. So if one doesn't conduct this in a participatory manner, there was no way [agencies] would have known of this problem”.

- Bernadette Resurreccion

incorporated into the consultation

process by explicit rules governing their participation. **[See Recommendation 1]**. Attention

⁴ The Urban Management Programme (UMP) of UN-Habitat is regionally anchored at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), and is better known as UMP-AIT.

should also be paid to the labour conditions women work under, and the varying degrees to which women are accustomed to wielding power within a group. For example, where caste or class structures exist, care should be taken to prevent the voices of privileged groups from dominating the process. **[See Recommendation 4].**

Where these conditions existed, it was felt that the city consultation methodology could be usefully employed to help cities, and to help

them in ways that women can benefit from. To achieve this, budgets specifically marked out for gender projects should be allocated, and administrative guidelines for sustained consultation should be formulated. Finally, a monitoring and assessment plan should also be included to check to what extent the city consultation methodology has actually benefited women.

Developing Partnerships

For their local partner in Vientiane, UMP/AIT chose the Vientiane municipality Lao Women's Union. The Lao Women's Union was established in 1955 to mobilize women for the Lao People's Revolutionary Army, making it "a mass organization of the government" in this one-party state. However, "its reach is so wide that even at the very basic grass-roots level they [the Women's Union] are very much present". In partnership with UMP/AIT, the Vientiane municipality Women's Union was able to produce a report and action plan on the situation of women in poverty in Vientiane. "This was the first time the women in the union came together and looked at poverty from their perspective". The project allowed them to take ownership of the gender agenda, strengthening both their capacity as a relevant woman's organization, and their links with the national women's machinery, the national Lao Women's Union.

On the other hand, when a group of women in Malaysia created a Women's Agenda for Change and used it to lobby each party in the 1999 election, they found that their gender agenda was "hijacked" by one party. "The experience is that, ownership became lost, and people see that if you work on this agenda, you support only a particular party". This shows the way in which faulty links between relevant women's groups and politicians can cause women's groups to lose ownership of the gender agenda.

Looking at these two cases, how do we create innovative ways of forging partnerships between national level women's machineries like the Lao Women's Union, and other women's organizations, and between women's organizations and politicians? How can we forge those partnerships so that the ownership of the women's agenda is not lost?

One organization with an innovative approach is the Asia Coalition for Housing Rights. Their Young Professionals Programme gives young professional women equal opportunity to spend time living with grass roots groups and immerse themselves in the issues, so they know "what are the issues and can build a close rapport with grass roots groups". **[See Recommendation 8].** More information can be found at <http://www.achr.net/>

Dr. Hamida Noori

Provincial Manager, UN-HABITAT *Tabita* Mission, Farah Province, Afghanistan

The final presentation on women-friendly governance was made by **Dr. Hamida Noori**, Provincial Manager for the UN-HABITAT Mission in Farah Province, Afghanistan. Dr. Hamida quoted from Mohammed Karzai's speech at a Tokyo donor's conference in 2002:

"We wish to implement a local empowerment program that would allow communities to manage their own resources. Such a program would allow legitimate leaders to emerge and deal with issues facing their communities"

This statement reflects a marked shift towards building broad-based, transparent, woman-friendly government institutions. Traditionally, the *shura*, or community council, is composed of ten or twelve men from the community. They meet only occasionally, and decisions are made – but not in a transparent way. Likewise, in urban areas, the *wakil-i-goza*, a kind of municipal liaison officer, is appointed. He is always a male. In helping to improve on these traditional institutions, UN-Habitat helped the government in designing the National Solidarity Programme (NSP), incorporating a number of elements centred on the concept of good governance. Among these were the need to establish linkages with other programmes, to transfer investment

funds to local communities, and to build capacities amongst local communities in financial management and project planning, so that those funds can be usefully deployed. Most critically, the NSP gives everyone the chance to vote for his or her representatives on the Community Development Council (CDC).

CDCs are a key part of this National Solidarity programme. It is the community development councils that assess the problems of the communities, seek solutions, and are ultimately responsible for implementation. Crucially, CDCs are formed for men and for women. Altogether, 573 such councils have been formed in the first cycle of the project. 221 of these councils are women's councils. 39% of the council members, who are elected by their peers, are women.

After 23 years of war, Afghans are now trying to reconstruct their country... women will have a key role... identifying needs and being part of decision making.

- Hamida Noori

In Dr. Hamida's words, "Although Afghanistan has a long way to go,

already there are positive signs that the National Solidarity Programme is crucial for the development and recovery of the country". For a gendered human settlements perspective, the existence of women's community development councils serves as an example of an institutionalised mechanism for involving women in local planning decisions. **[See Recommendations 6, 7]**. Prospects for deepening the extent of institutionalisation are promising, as demand has already been expressed in urban areas for a similar approach.

Security of Tenure and Relevant Cases

Mr. Jan Meeuwissen

Senior Human Settlements Officer, UN-HABITAT Regional Fukuoka Office for Asia and the Pacific

Presentations on the second day were on the theme of secure tenure. Secure Tenure, along with Urban Governance, is one of the two Global Campaigns that UN-HABITAT promotes. **Mr. Jan Meeuwissen**, from the Fukuoka office of UN-HABITAT, gave an introduction to the campaign in his presentation. The campaign, he said, employed an approach based on the rights of slum dwellers or urban residents. Originally designed to further the Habitat Agenda, the campaign fits perfectly with Millennium Development Goal 7, Target 11, of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020. Using UN member states' publicly stated commitment to Millennium Development Goal 11, UN-HABITAT and other agencies can gain political support to implement security of tenure, and vice versa: by increasing security of tenure, we can create conditions that will enable a significant improvement in slum dwellers' lives.

The relevance of this campaign to women is this: security of tenure is not just security of tenure for men, or male slum dwellers, or male landowners. It is also for women, female slum-dwellers,

and female landowners. And as women make up a majority of the urban poor, and have traditionally held responsibility for the home environment, the campaign has integrated gender concerns into its approach.

Mr. Meeuwissen gave us a definition of secure tenure as consisting of four components:

- life without fear of forced eviction
- stability of urban land markets
- investment brought about by relative certainty of residential tenure
- women's equal right to inherit, own and transfer land.

As was detailed in later reports, forced eviction is an unfortunately common process, which must stop if security of tenure is to be achieved. Where urban land markets are not developed, if prices, rents and ownerships are subject to sudden change, then people do not have secure tenure. Consequently, they will not be inclined to invest in land they do not believe they will have for a definite period of time. Particularly, if it is not explicit that women have equal rights to inherit, own and transfer land, then the tenure enjoyed by female headed

households is uncertain.

Funding can be mobilised just because security of tenure will be made available. Funding cannot be mobilised as long as people are not sure they can stay in their homes.

- Jan Meeuwissen

These components are made more difficult to achieve in Asia compared to other regions because of the high demand for land, especially in urban areas, and a lack of maturity in the fields of real estate and urban land management. Mr. Meeuwissen concluded that strategies for realising security of tenure must start with a recognition that forced eviction cannot continue, and that negotiation must first take place; that we should be open to innovative systems of tenure which recognise, for example, the importance of rent as a source of income for urban poor, and that throughout, action plans must be developed according to the experience and consensus of local actors, especially women.

Ms. Devi Nova Wahyuni

Co-ordinator for Monitoring, Indonesian National Commission on Violence Against Women, Indonesia

The next two presentations illustrated the challenges in achieving the recommended baseline of negotiation between governments and slum dwellers. Presentations from Ms. Devi Nova Wahyuni and Ms. Reeva Sood gave some examples of forced evictions where no negotiation had taken place, or indeed ever been envisaged.

Ms. Nova Wahyuni's presentation, "Action for better government policy in eviction issues from gender perspective", talked about the situation

in Indonesia. She noted many features common to the region: a significant growth in the urban population, a high demand for land in those urban areas, and a fast-growing mega-city (Jakarta).

According to figures given by Ms. Nova Wahyuni, in the 9 months from January to October 2003, there were 22,333 people evicted in the Jakarta area. Many of these evictions resulted from urban development projects: a land reclamation project, a flood canal, and a large highway. Force was used in the

Examples of Evictions Carried Out in Jakarta, January – October 2003

Forced eviction must stop if we are to achieve secure tenure for a significant number of people. Yet it is still all too common. The following table is taken from an Urban Poor Consortium paper. Their website, in Bahasa Indonesian, is available at <http://www.urbanpoor.or.id/>

No	Area	Time	Victims	Case category	Reason for eviction
1.	Bekasi	January	70	Eviction without adequate compensation	Not clear
2.	West Jakarta	January	13	Forced eviction	City park
3.	North Jakarta	Marc	600	Forced eviction	"Localization" (place of prostitution)
4.	East Jakarta	Marc	200	Forced eviction	Not clear
5.	Kali Angke	July	1200	Forced eviction with intimidation and violence	Flood Canal Project
6.	West Jakarta	August	10.000	Forced eviction with intimidation and violence	Force eviction with intimidation and violence PT Cakrawira (the Company of Indonesia National Military)
7.	Sunter Jaya,	September	500	Forced eviction with intimidation and violence	The land claimed by private company
8.	West Jakarta	September	2000	Forced eviction with intimidation and	The land claimed by PERUMNAS (Indonesia National

evictions. "Local government or private companies join with policemen, municipal guards, military personnel and private militia on the eviction operation". In an eviction in Kali Adem area of Jakarta in 2003, a woman was beaten until she was unconscious: in another case, a girl raped by government forces during an eviction operation.

There are three significant government housing measures, which between them aim to provide affordable housing to low-income groups, and emergency accommodation to at-risk groups. However, Ms. Nova Wahyuni noted that these programs have been drawn into competition with the private sector to serve middle or high-income citizens.

In response to the eviction situation, Ms Nova Wahyuni's organisation, the National Commission on Violence Against Women, co-operated with NGOs to issue a report drawing attention to the issue, and recommending a government moratorium. The Commission also provided more immediate aid. 200 people, evicted from 3 areas in Jakarta, are now staying in the organisation's grounds. 65% of them are women.

Local government did make an effort to provide temporary shelter. However, this effort was not as successful as it might have been, since the local government had not involved the local urban poor in its planning, nor had it fully informed

them. The NGO involved, an organisation supporting victims of eviction, involved the urban poor and women in their consultation process, but did not go further to provide any specific data on women's situation. Ms Nova Wahyuni concluded that much work needs to be put into fostering relationships with NGOs and the urban poor, and that information needs to be presented to governments in order to sensitise them to effects forced eviction can have.

Ms. Reeva Sood

Executive Director, INDCare, India

Ms. Reeva Sood, of INDCare, followed Ms Nova Wahyuni with a presentation on “A Journey Towards Empowerment for the Women of Resettlement Colonies”, describing how a group of women is trying to co-operate with government evictions, and trying to find some solutions to this problem.

The official local government policy is to inform slum communities that they will be relocated to an area outside the city. However, this notice is usually not given. Therefore, when authorities ask slum dwellers to pay 7,000 rupees (about US\$160) to stay in their current 18 square yard plot or face eviction, it is impossible for them to find the money in time to remain their plot.

Ms. Sood detailed the case of residents of Possangipur, a 30-year-old slum community with around 400 households. Residents were forcibly evicted to Holumbi Khalan, an area in the extreme northern periphery of Delhi. There were no basic amenities in Holumbi Khalan at the time of resettlement.

INDCare helped the relocated community through three steps. First, INDCare formed 4 self-help groups of 20 women. INDCare worked with those self-help groups, expanding their capacity and educating them on housing rights.

The self-help groups grew quickly. After relocation, they organised *jan sunvais*, or community courts, to invite bureaucrats and policy makers to the community and lobby them for improvements to the Holumbi Khalan area. The groups also decided not to go to policy makers or bureaucrats directly, but instead invite them into the Holumbi Khalan community.

Women decided not to go to the municipal house, calling the mayor. They decided to bring these...officials in their area... so they can face the brunt of the people...[and]

The third step involved using the self-help groups as the basis of a micro-finance program, using a small seed fund provided by the Urban Management Programme.

The results obtained have been impressive. The initial four women’s self-help groups have expanded to thirty self-help groups. The women have become a very active political unit, but have resisted incorporation into the municipal body. The micro-finance program has total savings of 144,000 Indian Rupees (about US\$3,200), and health and education services are now active in the Holumbi Khalan community. **[See Recommendation 18].**

Ms. Lajana Manandhar

Director, Lumanti Support Group for Shelter, Nepal

Ms. Lajana Manandhar's presentation on "Secure Tenure, Secure Lives: Experience on working with women to improve security of tenure" reported on the situation in Kathmandu. Whilst Nepal's current level of urbanisation is low compared to other Asian countries, its rate of urbanisation is high, exposing it to the problems noted in other presentations. The bulk of this urbanisation comes from informal settlements built on marginal land vulnerable to human and natural calamities such as eviction or flooding. Lacking legal title to their land, settlers in these areas are not eligible to receive basic services through the government system. And whilst women are legally entitled to own land and take out mortgages, their actual role in decision making or in controlling economic resources is limited. 17% of households in urban poor communities are headed by women.

Ms Manandhar's organisation, Lumanti, is working to combat these challenges. By aiding community groups such as Mahila Ekta Samaj, the first squatter women's organisation in Nepal, Lumanti hopes to help women organise and

develop their ability to lobby government and become involved in decision-

making. As part of that learning process, Lumanti has organised exchange visits with the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR) and Slum Dwellers' International (SDI) so that Nepali women can learn from struggles throughout Asia. This is part of efforts to link women's organisations with other women's groups at local, national, regional and international levels. **[See Recommendation 10].**

Finally, women's organisations have provided support for saving schemes directed to generating income and improving services, and are also giving input to the Nepali National Urban Poor Support Fund, a Rs. 200m. (about US\$2.85m) fund dedicated to supporting the initiatives of the urban poor. Throughout, organisations have expanded capacity, improved solidarity and linkages with other women's and squatter's organisations, and increased their ability to influence decision-making.

Role of Micro-Finance Schemes

Participants at the EGM noted that successes in Nepal, with Mahila Ekta Samaj, in India, with the Holumbi Khalan community, and in Ayutthaya, Thailand (see below), have one common component – savings. This highlights the important role that providing credit facilities can play in helping the urban poor.

Lucia Kiwala noted a pilot scheme involving a loan fund in Uganda and Tanzania. The Jinja Municipal council in Uganda provided land and technical assistance, including their expertise on urban planning, and the UN-Habitat revolving fund has provided the seed capital for housing and business loans for local women's groups. The women will be expected to pay back in order for others to benefit.

Teresa Fernandez gave an example from the Philippines, where the Lihok Pilipina Foundation asked the government to provide finance for a loan scheme. The government offered a 100% loan for low-end housing. Lihok Pilipina refused, because a 100% loan would “destroy the existing savings” and lower the savers’ incentive to put away money. **[See Recommendation 22]**.

These examples show that governments can provide much assistance to micro-credit schemes **[see Recommendation 23]**, but that savers should be encouraged to realise the importance of repayment. Further guidelines and information on micro-finance schemes can be found at the Micro finance

Ms. Teresa Banaynal-Fernandez

Executive Director, Lihok Pilipina Foundation, Philippines

Fortunately, the EGM was also able to share in the knowledge and expertise of delegates from a city that won an award in the First Contest for Gender Responsive Local Governments, Asia-Pacific. **Ms. Teresa Banaynal Fernandez**, from Cebu city, gave a presentation on some of the activities taking place there, and on some of the benefits that come from local government really committing to gender-related initiatives.

Ms. Fernandez’s involvement with women-friendly settlements came when she and her husband were trying to purchase a plot of land. “We couldn’t buy a big piece of land in a formal subdivision, so we decided to buy on the periphery – and everyone wanted to join us. And so, this was a chance for everybody to own the land. We bought with everybody’s savings together; we negotiated with the land-owner. We got a piece of land and we sub-divided it among ourselves and it ended up very

cheap... a foundation noticed, and said, 'oh, why don't you put up a foundation that will focus solely on community associations?' So the Pagtambayaypong Foundation, headed by Ms. Fernandez's husband, was set up. It focused on organising communities for low cost housing. The 1988 Community Mortgage Program of the Philippines Government was derived from its experience. As the Foundation got involved with local communities, Ms. Fernandez was also confronted by problems presented by women: their need for livelihoods and their problems with child care and street and working children. Ms Fernandez and her husband then set up the Lihok Pilipina foundation.

Code, started implementing the Gender and Development Budget policy requiring government to set aside 5% of the budget for gender concerns, and Gender and Development focal points have been stationed in each ward, or barangay. These commitments have all created institutional mechanisms whereby gender and development issues can be raised, discussed and pursued.

"When they [governments] own the issue, [they] will continue programmes with or without external funding".

Lihok Pilipina started Bantay Banay – a community based, multistakeholder program to respond to domestic and gender-based violence – which was eventually funded by the local government, and has since been replicated in other cities in the Philippines. The commitment of the local government to programs like Lihok Pilipina and Bantay Banay is substantiated by lasting commitments from the local government. **[See Recommendation 2]**. The city has passed a Gender and Development

Dr. Toshinobu Fuji

Professor, Toyo University, Japan

Finally, **Dr. Toshinobu Fuji** from Toyo University gave a presentation on the “Possibilities of activities through community networks”, centring on research Dr. Fuji carried out in Ayutthaya, 76 kilometres north of Bangkok. The presentation highlighted the importance of building a “theme

“[These community networks] will lead to the establishment of a new public domain through participatory community developments”

- Toshinobu Fujii

community”, or a group that exists independently from governments or NGOs, and that has a clear theme that binds community members together. In the case of Ayutthaya, communities started forming in 1998. Savings groups were established with the aid of Miyazawa fund, an Asian currency stabilisation and development fund. Much like the savings groups established in Khatmandhu or Holumbhi Khalan, these saving groups brought together groups of urban poor, and fostered solidarity.

Shortly after the initial formation of the saving groups, the Community

Organisations Development Institute, or

CODI, was brought in to help organise the savings groups into a community network. CODI helped the savings groups/community networks organise ad hoc working groups to focus on the problems that their community faced, whether housing, roads, drainages, eviction, or hygiene problems. It was these working groups that raised issues and created theme groups; or groups of local communities working on particular problems that they faced together. These theme communities worked together with NGOs and local government, but remained autonomous from them. In short, they are sustainable organisations working towards security of tenure and the improvement of basic services for slum dwellers.

Name of Communities	Community					
	Houses	Road	Drainages	Enterprise	Eviction	Revolving Hygiene
Trok Kanomtuay	●	●	●	●	●	●
Wat Pitchai	●	●	●	●	●	●
Wat Inta Ram	●	●	●	●	●	●
Wat Sara Poon	●	●	●	●	●	●
Suwang Somde	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sir Sanphet	●	●	●	●	●	●
Wat Tong Pu	●	●	●	●	●	●
San Tyome Tapthin	●	●	●	●	●	●
Pom Phet	●	●	●	●	●	●
Arkam Songkroh	●	●	●	●	●	●

Examples of issues shared across theme communities

Overview

The First Contest for Women-friendly Cities, Asia-Pacific

On the 4th March 2004, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) announced three cities as winners of the “Award for Women-friendly Cities 2004” in the First Contest of Gender Responsive Local Governments Asia-Pacific. They were Cebu, the Philippines, Naga, the Philippines, and Visakhapatnam, India.

The contest, co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), identified three gender responsive cities that are currently implementing governance principles that support women-friendly city management. The aim was to build on the work of numerous ongoing initiatives within the Asia-Pacific region, which tackle the issues of gender inequality and the continuing lack of women’s participation in social, political and economic issues.

Having received twenty-four applications from eight different countries in the Asia-Pacific region, a panel of international jurors reviewed and evaluated applications as per the following criteria:

- Legislative commitments towards women friendly cities (Municipal Codes, Acts etc.);
- Institutionalisation of mechanism where women's views are being integrated as part of urban governance system, which continuously contribute to policy recommendations towards women friendly cities;
- System for promoting affirmative actions for equal representation;
- Budgetary allocation for such activities (such as gender budgeting);
- Partnership with various stakeholders, participation of women (in particular the poor), innovation, sustainability, replicability and monitoring components were also considered.

The Asia-Pacific Contest was launched as per the recommendations made by the Expert Group Meeting on Gender and Women’s Issues in Human Settlements organised by UN-HABITAT and held in Nairobi, Kenya in February 2003. The Contest aims to encourage and reward local governments who establish innovative policies and programs, which take the demands and agendas of women and girls living in their communities into account.

The Award Ceremony and Public Forum was held in Fukuoka on 8 March 2004, the International Women’s Day. Two Mayors from award winning cities attended the

Ceremony.

Similar contests were held in Latin America and the Caribbean three times (1998, 1999, 2003) within the framework of the Global Campaigns of the United Nations for the Human Rights of Women and Girls and for Good Urban Governance, with support from UNIFEM, the Urban Management Program for Latin America and the Caribbean (UMP-LAC) and the “Women and Habitat” Program (both from UN-HABITAT), and the Latin American and Caribbean Federation of Women in Local Government (FEMUM-LAC).

Cebu City



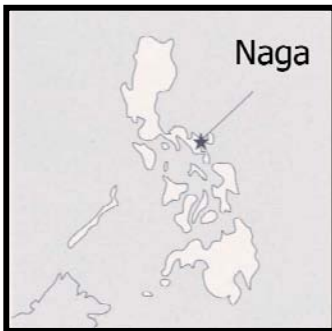
Mayor Tomas Osmena accepts the award for Cebu City



Cebu City impressed the jury with its role in bringing together a variety of private sector and civil society organisations to combat domestic violence and truly mainstream gender concerns. Through its “Support for Community Initiatives to Respond to Domestic Violence” program, the city offered training and support for community and agency representatives, and encouraged representatives to come together in an interagency council. Through this approach, private and public sector organisations came to realise their interdependency, and realised the great benefits to be had through inter-agency co-operation. This approach has now been replicated in 70 cities and municipalities across the Philippines. The program has responded to around 15,000 cases since its formation, and domestic violence has changed from a “private to a public” concern. Second, through its programme for “Institutionalizing Gender in City Governance”, the city has earmarked 5% of its budget for gender related issues, and provided affirmative action funds for activities proposed by local women.

Naga City

Mayor Jesse M. Robredo



Naga City showed the importance of legislative action with its “Women Development Code” initiative, a collaboration between the city government and various women’s groups targeted at creating an environment which allows women the fullest opportunity to realise their potential. Measures included earmarking budget headings for gender concerns, allocating seats for female representatives, and the creation ask Force to implement the Code. The initiative has led to a greater awareness of the important role women play in the development of the community, and given women a greater voice in the local decision-making process.

Visakhapatnam City



Mayor Rajana Ramani accepts the award for Visakhapatnam City



Visakhapatnam City impressed the jury with its Akshara Visakha programme, a programme aimed at enabling illiterate women to make themselves literate. This extremely successful program encourages women to organise themselves to achieve their goals. The programme demonstrated the extremely useful co-ordinating role local governments can play in facilitating women’s efforts to attain their goals. In 2002, 11,000 women from 208 slums enrolled. 90% of those who have enrolled so far have become literate.

These three cities will receive funds to further disseminate their initiatives within their region and country. It is hoped that winning cities will send experts to other locations to provide advice and training. This fund will also allow winning cities to visit the projects of co-winners and to host delegations from other Asian and Pacific countries.

Name of City	Date Enacted	Act / Code	Purpose	Impact
Bharatpur, Nepal	1995	Establishment of Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MWCSW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prepare a National Plan of Action following the 1995 Beijing Conference Short term objective: to involve women in decision-making positions and improve their overall status in Nepal 	
	1998	The Rural-Urban Partnership Program (RUPP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A poverty alleviation program Further objective: to involve women in municipal planning processes and development of economic enterprises in municipalities and village areas 	<p>The municipality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is bringing women into community decision-making positions empowering women through community mobilization processes training women in leadership development, skills transfer etc. has provided training to about 876 persons 53 percent of whom are women.
	1999	The Local Self-Governance Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reserves 20% of seats for women in local government bodies Current percentage of women employed in the civil service as a whole is merely 7 % 	On the basis of the 2000 election, about 28%, 8.3%, 24.1% and 7.2% elected and nominated female member representatives elected to the ward, village, municipality and district level committees respectively.
Malolos City ,Provincial Government of Bulacan, Republic of the Philippines	1994	Provincial Commission For Women in Bulacan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A body to review, evaluate and recommend measures for further equality between men and women. Priorities include ensuring the full integration of women in economic, social, cultural development Operates at the provincial, municipal and barangay levels 	<p>The Commission strengthened its influence, especially in matters of policy making.</p> <p>More funds were given to projects that ensure women's protection and development.</p>
Capoocan, Philippines	Oct. 2001	Pro-GAD Capoocan (Program on Gender and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive gender program Responds to the various 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has enabled more women to be confident in articulating women's

		Development for Capooconons);	gender/women issues and concerns identified through participatory processes.	issues and concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More and more women leaders are emerging whose opinions count as much as those of men in community development matters.
Matsue, Japan	From May 2000 to February 2001	Workshop: Efforts of Citizen's Partnership and Cooperation on Gender Equality Policy	By holding citizen's workshops as part of the Gender Equality participation plan and the by establishing the regulations, citizen's opinions, especially those of women, are reflected in local government measures.	As a result of opinions from the workshops; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relatively advanced regulations were established • the environment for women's participation improved. • the citizens who were empowered through the workshops are contributing to the promotion of gender equality • citizens' groups were formed which make policy suggestions and participate in the city councils • perspectives from gender equality participation are starting to be reflected on city policies and city development.
	From June 2001 to January 2003	Workshop: City Regulation Enactment Process		
Kanazawa, Japan	December 2001	Aiming at a City that is friendly to Child-Rearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the environment in which a woman bears a child • To create an environment where women can keep on committing to bringing up the child • To look at the employment rate of the woman during child-rearing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has contributed to consciousness formation that "child-rearing is not just a female role" but that the whole of society will watch and cherish a child. • Since the project site is used as a place of exchange for parents, children and child-rearing groups, it functions as a child-rearing support institution where the mothers can feel easy.

Award Ceremony and Public Forum: “Towards Women-friendly Cities”

The First Contest for Gender Responsive Local Governments, Asia-Pacific, was not just a chance to reward certain cities for their efforts: it also provided an opportunity to bring together mayors from these cities to discuss what they have done so far, and what experiences they have gained as they move towards women-friendly cities. Mayors shared their experiences in the Award Ceremony on the morning of the 8th March, and also in the public forum in the afternoon. Mayor Tomas Osmena, of Cebu City, also took part in a one-on-one interview with UN-HABITAT Goodwill Ambassador Mari Christine. The day was devoted for participants to think about “definition” of women-friendly cities from their own perspectives and reflect on what and how they can contribute to achieving them.

The award ceremony began with an address from the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka. Ms. Tibaijuka’s address was read by Mr. Toshi Noda, Director of the Fukuoka Office. Ms. Tibaijuka noted that “it is no accident that [today’s event] is held on... Women’s Day, the day we commemorate the historic struggle for women’s equality... in our cities”. She expressed hope that the event would “cause others working for women-friendly cities... to take heart”, and congratulated the winning cities on their efforts.

Ms. Tibaijuka’s address was followed by the award ceremony and speeches from the two mayors; Mayors Tomas Osmena of Cebu City and Rajana Ramani of Visakhapatnam. Each mayor emphasised different aspects of their move towards becoming a women-friendly cities. Mayor Osmena talked about the positive benefits that can be had by reaching out to women’s groups. “When my administration responded to the request of women... it was really in line with my stance as the Chief Executive... to reach out and encourage groups who are doing well in the field”, he said. Mayor Ramani followed this by stressing how important it is that women work hard to make their demands to city governments. “Suppose, if I start my day at about 8 o’clock [in the morning], I will end by 8:30, 9:00, sometimes 9:30, 10:00 PM.... If you can do that, a day comes when the whole world looks upon women... [that] day comes if we go for some sacrifices”. EGM participant Tessie Fernandez, in a speech written by Mayor Jesse M. Robredo of Naga City, noted again that efforts by city governments can only come about when women work for them. “The things we have done and

started to do in Naga City.... were envisioned... not by me but by the great women Naga City has been blessed with”.

Following their speeches, the mayors participated in a public forum, dealing with a range of issues essential to making cities women-friendly. Among those issues were: the influence of culture and traditions on the way we think about women’s roles; the importance of positive female role models, especially in politics, and conflict between men and women. In response to a question about rivalry between men and women, Mayor Ramani replied “In a society, the men and the women both have to play an important role... an equal role. And that equality, which we are fighting for, it is not *against* men, or to take over, or go against men’s will, or anything like that... we are just asking for *equal* rights, *equal* opportunities, and [then] we can show our capabilities”.

In his one-on-one interview with Mari Christine, Cebu City Mayor Tomas Osmena echoed many of these viewpoints. He spoke of the positive benefits men and women can gain from a women-friendly city. He said,

“I don’t do it purely out of the goodness of my heart, but just out of very cold understanding that men and women have roughly the same intelligence. And when more opportunities are given to men, then it is only wise and practical to realise that there is more available talent in the women’s sector... it’s only natural that when I choose the most talented people that many of them would be women, because they just never had the chance to prove themselves”.

Public Forum

This section documents the Public Forum, comprised of the Keynote Address, Award Ceremony, and Panel Discussion, held in Fukuoka, Japan on March 8, 2004

“Towards Women-friendly Cities”

Ikuko Noguchi, Director

Fukuoka City Gender Equality Promotion Center, AMIKAS

May 8th, 2004 is designated International Women’s Day by the United Nations, and is a very significant day as the world celebrates by renewing their commitment to the achievement of women’s equal rights, equality and world peace. As I am currently working in the promotion of gender equality, I’m particularly pleased to see this innovative event organized on this significant day.

What exactly defines Women-friendly Cities? What kinds of cities come to mind? One definitive facet is the realization of fundamental principles in the form of legislation and policies, both developed and implemented by the government and municipalities. The other aspect is actual community building through infrastructure development. In other words, we can call the former the “software” and the latter “hardware“. Today, I would like to talk about Women-friendly Cities from these two perspectives.

Global Trend

First, I would like to focus on the fundamental principles, as viewed through legislation and policies related to Women-friendly Cities. The principles of ‘equality, development and peace’ have become the common goal of women worldwide since International Women’s Year in 1975. Subsequent to International Women’s Year, conventions and various pieces of legislation have been developed and adopted. Amongst these efforts, the most notable development is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which Japan ratified in 1985. This commitment was confirmed during the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing⁵ in 1995.

⁵ hereinafter referred to as “the Beijing Conference”.

As a result of CEDAW and the Beijing Conference, the following principles have been confirmed, amongst others: the elimination of prejudice and discriminatory customs and practices, the removal of traditional values on division of labor by gender roles (e.g. “Men should work outside and women should stay at home”), the elimination of all forms of violence against women, the promotion of women's empowerment, and so on.

The Beijing Declaration, adopted at the Beijing Conference, states that “we are convinced” that “it is essential to design, implement and monitor, with the full participation of women, effective, efficient and mutually reinforcing gender-sensitive policies and programmes, including development policies and programmes, at all levels that will foster the empowerment and advancement of women” (*Beijing Declaration*, 19).

The word “gender” is not yet considered conventional in Japan. Yet, in response to the global call to reflect on a gender perspective in all fields, ‘gender equality’ and ‘gender-sensitive perspective’ have now become keywords in Japan as throughout the world, moving beyond the simple call for equality for men and women.

In Japanese, the word “gender” is defined as “the distinction of sex formed socially and culturally”, and has become a very important key word when we consider a gender-equal society or gender-equality.

Let us now look at the reality. On a global scale, it is estimated that of the 1.3 billion people are suffering from poverty, 70% are women. Furthermore, out of the 9 hundred million people who are illiterate, two-thirds are women.

In the development goals for the 21st century of the Millennium Declaration adopted by the United Nations Millennium Summit held in 2000, the importance of ‘gender equality’ is clearly stated. It states that the promotion of gender equality and enhancement of social status of women are not only worth themselves but also make up the core of achieving all other objectives.

It is noted that gender equality is an important objective in the activities of the various UN organizations including UN-HABITAT, the organizer of today’s event.

In line with this global trend, as you are aware, Japan enacted *the Basic Law for a Gender-equal Society* in 1999. Although the preamble of *the Basic Law for a Gender-equal Society* does not use the word of “gender” literally, it describes the concept of gender, stating that “it has become a matter of urgent importance to realize a Gender-equal Society in which men and women respect the other's human rights and share

their responsibilities, and every citizen is able to fully exercise their individuality and abilities regardless of gender.⁶”.

I believe today’s theme “Women-friendly Cities” is in accordance with the basic principle stipulated in the preamble of *the Basic Law for a Gender-equal Society*. “Women-friendly Cities” are the cities that guarantee the fundamental rights of citizens regardless of their sex, where every citizen can participate in all areas of life, including politics, economic activities, the workplace, home and within the local community.

I mentioned a couple statistics earlier with regards to the situation of women worldwide. Where do we stand in Japan? According to *the White Paper on Gender Equal Society 2002*, 7.3% of the total members of the Diet are female, which indicates the degree of women’s participation in political decision-making machinery. The percentage of women engaging in managerial works is 8.9%. In the case of a child rearing couple, while a husband spends 40 minutes on household chores, a wife spends 3.8 hours per day on the same type of work. It is unfortunate to note that gender equality has progressed at neither at the workplace, nor at home in Japan.

Considering this situation, the Japanese government decided to set specific targets to increase the percentage of women in leading positions in every field to 30% by 2020, and implemented a policy known as the “Supportive Measures for Women’s Challenge”⁷ in April 2003, which aims to encourage women to move into the public sector.

To implement this measure, it also adopted so-called “positive action” by providing opportunities either for men or women, accordingly, in order to redress the current gender disparities in society and in the workplace. *The Basic Law for a Gender-equal Society* stipulates that local governments will also need to take various measures to implement these principles. Accordingly, local governments have begun the implementation of various measures.

Incorporating Gender Perspectives⁸ into Every Part of Our Society

What about the urban planning and town building side of city management? It is often said that city planning has conventionally been targeted towards the healthy adult male. For instance, we often hear that the baby stroller users, the elderly and

⁶ The Basic Law for a Gender-equal Society (Law No. 78 of 1999), (Tentative Translation in English) http://www.gender.go.jp/english_contents/basic_law/index.html

⁷ “Supportive Measures for Women’s Challenge 女性チャレンジ支援策”, 2003

⁸ We note that we often use the phrase “‘Women’s needs or perspectives’” or ‘Gender Perspectives’ within this text, but encourage conscious usage of these terms to ensure that it is not used in the context of reinforcing traditional gender roles and perpetuating gender inequality.

wheelchair users complain how the streets, public transportation, shopping areas and restaurants are often inaccessibly designed.

In Fukuoka city, some women's groups persistently appealed to certain public offices and department stores for years to install baby chairs in their ladies rooms. Another example comes from a woman who saw notices at many restaurants stating that "baby strollers are not allowed". She later opened a restaurant that is friendly to parents with their babies. These two examples are both derived from women's personal experiences and perspectives. I think this is one of the ways to realize women-friendly cities.

As you know, Norway is known as the most advanced country in terms of gender equality. A booklet of the Ministry of Environment's project entitled, "A Women's Perspective in Public Planning – Municipal Planning on Women's Terms" published by the Environment Ministry of Norway, clearly expresses how important and effective it is for women to participate in the city management and planning. Here are some important points from the booklet⁹:

1. In a city management and planning, "Municipal planning should devote particular attention to the specific needs of women, since it is traditionally men who direct the process. This means that the situation of women is often forgotten." "In this way, the women's perspective becomes 'a family perspective', which is important for future settlement."
2. "It is important to present women's viewpoints and to translate these into specific municipal plans and measures which, in turn, can create greater economic activity and more jobs."
3. "Women think and plan differently from men. Women try to encourage the 'gender' values, with greater consideration for family and children, and 'prevention rather than cure'."
4. "We must plan a society with gentler values, a society that reflects concern for others, contact and closeness - a society that is good to live in for everyone. A society where human worth is more important than material values."

Women account for a half of the entire population of the world. These points highlight the importance of maximizing women's talents and capabilities in city

⁹ Ministry of Environment, Government of Norway, 1993.
"A Women's Perspective in Public Planning – Municipal Planning on Women's Terms", p13.

management and planning, based on the principle of gender equal society. Norway's current women-friendly initiatives provide food for thought for today's topic.

More Women are Expected to Participate

In October 2001, Fukuoka prefecture passed the *Gender Equal Society in Fukuoka Prefecture Act*, and has since implemented various measures. Though lagging behind this, recently, an act promoting "Gender Equal Society" was recently submitted to the assembly of Fukuoka city as well.

The act provides that, considering that autonomous community organizations play a vital role in governing the local community, it must make a commitment to providing support for the measures related to gender equality when community based activities are carried out. Furthermore, the City will request for cooperation from the local communities to adhere to principles of gender policy of the city. This statement also suggests how important it is to incorporate the concept of gender equal society into the city's management.

In Fukuoka City, a half-century-old community facilitator system was abolished at the end of March 2004. Instead, a wide variety of actions have been taken in order to establish new autonomous organizations and councils at the school district level. Under this new structure, women's involvement in local and city affairs is becoming more important.

I hope this forum will be a big help to your respective communities. Thank you.

Award Ceremony

Asia-Pacific Contest for Gender Responsive Local Governments

- Towards Women-friendly Cities -

The contest, co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and various UN-HABITAT programmes including Global Campaign for Good Urban Governance and Urban Management Programme, identified three gender responsive cities from the region, which are currently implementing governance principles that support women-friendly city management. This aims to build on the work of numerous ongoing initiatives within the Asia-Pacific region, which tackle the issues of gender inequality and the continuing lack of women's participation in social, political and economic issues.

Similar contests were held in Latin America and the Caribbean three times (1998, 1999, 2003) within the framework of the Global Campaigns of the United Nations for the Human Rights of Women and Girls and for Good Urban Governance, with support from UNIFEM, the Urban Management Program for Latin America and the Caribbean (UMP-LAC) and the Women and Habitat Program (both from UN-HABITAT), and the Latin American and Caribbean Federation of Women in Local Government (FEMUM-LAC).

The Asia-Pacific Contest was launched as per the recommendations made by the Expert Group Meeting on Gender and Women's Issues in Human Settlements organized by UN-HABITAT and held in Nairobi, Kenya in February 2003. The contest aims to encourage and reward local governments who establish innovative policies and programs which take into account the demands and agendas of women and girls living in their communities.

Having received twenty-four applications from eight different countries in the Asia-Pacific region, a panel of international jurors have reviewed and evaluated applications as per the following criteria:

- Legislative commitments towards women friendly cities (Municipal Codes, Acts etc.);
- Institutionalization of mechanisms, where women's views are being integrated as part of the urban governance system, which are continuously contributing policy recommendations towards women friendly cities;
- System for promoting affirmative action for equal representation;

- Budgetary allocation for gender related activities (such as gender budgeting);
- Partnership with various stake-holders, participation of women (in particular the poor), demonstrated innovation, sustainability, replicability and monitoring components.

As a result, following three local governments were selected for “Awards of Women-friendly Cities 2004”.

- **Cebu, the Philippines**
- **Naga, the Philippines**
- **Visakhapatnam, India**



THE THREE CITY AWARDEES WERE INVITED TO ATTEND THE AWARD CEREMONY AND PUBLIC FORUM, HELD ON 8 MARCH IN FUKUOKA, JAPAN.

THERE, THE CITIES’ ACTIVITIES WERE INTRODUCED AND THEIR EXPERIENCES EXCHANGED WITH OTHER GROUPS.

From the municipalities of Japan, having received a total of 3 applications (Matsue in Shimane Prefecture, Kanazawa in Ishikawa Prefecture, and Mitaka in Tokyo Metropolis), UN-HABITAT Fukuoka Office selected Kanazawa and Matsue for “High Achievement Award” and Mitaka for “Special Merit.”

The first of its kind in the region, the contest and its award ceremony were made possible with a joint effort of the following partners:

Hosts: UN-HABITAT, UNIFEM

Local Hosts: ASUBARU, AMIKAS, KFAW (Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women), Soroptimist International of the Americas- Japan Minami Region, Japan Habitat Association

Supporting Organizations: Fukuoka Prefectural Government, Fukuoka City Government, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Tele-communications

CEBU, THE PHILIPPINES

REASON FOR THE AWARD:

CEBU CITY IMPRESSED THE JURY WITH ITS ROLE IN BRINGING TOGETHER A VARIETY OF

PRIVATE SECTOR AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS TO COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND MAINSTREAM GENDER CONCERNS. THROUGH ITS “SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY INITIATIVES TO RESPOND TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE” PROGRAM, THE CITY OFFERED TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY AND AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES, AND ENCOURAGED REPRESENTATIVES TO COME TOGETHER IN AN INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL. THROUGH THIS APPROACH, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS CAME TO REALIZE THEIR INTERDEPENDENCE, AND ACKNOWLEDGED THE GREAT BENEFITS TO BE HAD THROUGH INTER-AGENCY COOPERATION. THIS APPROACH HAS NOW BEEN REPLICATED IN 70 CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES ACROSS THE PHILIPPINES. THE PROGRAM HAS RESPONDED TO AROUND 15,000 CASES SINCE ITS FORMATION, AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HAS CHANGED FROM A PRIVATE TO A PUBLIC CONCERN. FURTHERMORE, THROUGH ITS PROGRAMME FOR “INSTITUTIONALIZING GENDER IN CITY GOVERNANCE”, THE CITY HAS EARMARKED 5% OF ITS BUDGET FOR GENDER RELATED ISSUES AND PROVIDED AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FUNDS FOR ACTIVITIES PROPOSED BY LOCAL WOMEN.

Speech by Mr. Tomas R. OSMENA, Mayor of Cebu, the Philippines:



“The UN representatives and partners organizing this Asia-Pacific Women-friendly Cities Contest, honorable guests, distinguished participants: good afternoon and warm greetings for an empowering International Women’s Day. I have to be honest with you. This is the second time to get an award in gender governance since last December. And when I learnt about it, I thought it was simply too good to be true.

Another confession I have to make. When my administration responded to the request of women for particular activities and services, it was really in line with my stance as the Chief Executive, that is, to reach out and encourage groups who are doing well in their field to continue and the government will support them in whatever way we can. Just like the others, I assume the problem of women was simply a question of access, and so we tried to deliver more so that they can have access. I realise that the issues advocated by the other vulnerable sectors are women’s issues, too. And there are a lot that we need to examine in terms of the traditional assumptions. We are brought up with the terms of women’s roles, expected behaviors and positions in society that affect women’s access to resources and benefits, protection, the empowerment as an equal in managing this world.

This is a journey for me, too. All the while, I thought I was the one having an issue because my wife is the commander in our house, or so I believed. But come to think of it, my wife gave up her own career in banking in the United States to support my bid for politics. I am not sure people will expect me to do the same if I were in their shoes.

Cebu City is getting to be more complicated with more immigrants, more traffic, more tourists and more strains in basic services; in the Barangays, the disadvantaged try to improve their lives and their communities. Many of these are women. They are the reason we have received this Award.

This Award is because the women stakeholders were bonded together to respond to domestic violence and to open the eyes of the city to violence and other issues of women. They introduced the tool of partnership that is important in effective governance. To the Organizers of this Contest, my heartfelt thanks. This Award in fact reminds and challenges us to look harder on the many more things we will have to do to improve women's situation. It also deepens our appreciation for the women of the community who have assumed the role of making our city a better place for our people to live in. To all the women who have made each and all of our lives more meaningful, my heartfelt salute on this Day of Women. Thank you very much."

VISAKHAPATNAM, INDIA

Reason for the Award: Visakhapatnam City impressed the jury with its Akshara Visakha programme, a programme aimed at enabling illiterate women to make themselves literate. This extremely successful program encourages women to organise themselves to achieve their goals. The programme demonstrated the extremely useful coordinating role local governments are able to play by facilitating women's efforts to attain their goals. In 2002, 11,000 women from 208 slums enrolled. 90% of those who have enrolled so far have become literate.

Speech by Ms. Rajana RAMANI, Mayor of Visakhapatnam, India:



"Dear Director of UN-Habitat, the Goodwill Ambassador, the Organisers of this great event, the Women-friendly Cities Award of 2004, the UNIFEM, and other organisers, distinguished participants, dear ladies and gentlemen: Indeed it is a great privilege and honor for me to receive this award, and particularly on this

International Women's Day. And on behalf of the people of my City, and also on behalf of the people of my India, and particularly the women, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the organizers.

Receiving this award and taking it back home to my City, I feel that the future representatives, the administrators, the Governments will find new ways to work with much more responsibility towards the emancipation and empowerment of women who are truly downtrodden.

I once again thank you, and thank you one and all. Thank you."

NAGA, THE PHILIPPINES

Reason for the Award:

Naga City showed the importance of legislative action with its "Women Development Code" initiative, a collaboration between the city government and various women's groups targeted at creating an environment which allows women the opportunity to realise their full potential. Measures included earmarking budget headings for gender concerns, allocating seats for female representatives, and the creation of a Task Force to implement the Code. The initiative has led to a greater awareness of the important role women play in the community development, and has given women a greater voice in the local decision-making process.

Speech by Jesse Robredo, Mayor of Naga, the Philippines, read by Tessie Fernandez:



"Good afternoon. The Mayor of Naga and his team couldn't come and has requested that I read this prepared speech. This is from Mayor Jesse M. Robredo, City Mayor of Naga:

Esteemed organizers of this momentous event, honored guests, distinguished participants, a truly empowering and pleasantly liberating International Day of Women to all of you. Over the past six years or so, the local government of Naga has received and been honored with various awards and recognition, given mostly under the auspices of the different programs of the United Nations. But the recognition and the honor you bestowed on us today is probably the most significant to me.

The personal philosophy I have committed to guiding my life has been the true equality of all people. The same principle is underlying the policies and decision we make with respect to the governance of Naga City. This is why Naga City has focused on poverty alleviation for it is only when people are released from the bondage of poverty that they are truly able to claim and enjoy equal rights. Because of this philosophy, my approach to development has had no specific bias other than a specific bias for the poor and the under-privileged.

It has been in the past decade or so that I had begun to realize that governments should be approached with another bias, a bias for women. I will not in the speech venture into a litany of situations illustrating the marginalization and the disempowerment of women in order to justify the need for bias in their favor. I will not even try to do that, because I am not the expert; you are. Besides, I believe that the mere fact that women hold up half the sky is enough reason for women to enjoy as much power as men do and they should therefore be given every opportunity to do so.

What I would like to get across here and share with everyone is the realization that the best thing a man can provide, can probably do here on earth, is to be supportive of women of their dreams and aspirations, reaching out beyond themselves and out to others. I go so far as to venture to say that if at the beginning of time women had been given just a tenth of the opportunities we have today, this world might certainly have been a much better place than it is today. But it is not too late.

The things that we have done and started to do in Naga City towards making governance gender responsive were envisioned and drafted not by me but by the great women Naga City has been blessed with. Two of them are supposed to have been here today. My only role and contribution is to be supportive of these initiatives, sometimes as critic, but only in further appreciation of these efforts.

It is a conclusion without doubt, therefore, that these initiatives would have been impossible without the women of Naga City. We all know that we still have a long long way to go. But we are truly happy that the trail has been blazed. The recognition and honor you will bestow on us today is indeed another feather, a very special feather, in the cup of the city government of Naga and its people. And it is my personal hope that this award will serve as inspiration and guide for all others who govern now and through the generations to come.

On behalf of the entire City Government of Naga, I say thank you. Thank you very much. May this effort encourage and inspire all of us as we continue the task of making this world gender-responsive for a better and brighter tomorrow, especially for our children. May God continue to bless us. Thank you very much.”

Panel Discussion *Women Friendly Cities*



Panelists:

Tomas OSMENA: Mayor of Cebu City, the Philippines
Rajana RAMANI: Mayor of Visakhapatnam City, India
Fumiko TAKAYAMA: Former President of ASUBARU, Fukuoka Prefectural Center for Promotion of Gender Equality
Toshiro SATO: CEO of Environmental Design Organization Co., Ltd.
Kanae KIMOTO: Secretary-General of the Asian-Pacific Children's Convention in Fukuoka

Coordinator:

Mari CHRISTINE: Goodwill Ambassador of UN-HABITAT

COORDINATOR (MARI CHRISTINE): To open the session, Coordinator Mari Christine presented the agenda for the panel discussion. She introduced the two award winning mayors, Honorable Mr. Tomas Osmeña, the Mayor of Cebu City from the Philippines and Honorable Ms. Rajana Ramani, the Mayor of Visakhapatnam City from India, announcing that they could share their efforts in making their cities more women-friendly. She announced that their presentations would be followed by the panel discussion with the five panelists.

Addressing the audience, she asked, “What comes to your mind when you hear the phrase ‘Women-friendly Cities?’” Noting that some people may think of roads, buildings, communities, institutions or systems, that in fact the notion of “Women Friendly Cities”, might indeed be one that has within its scope a great deal of leeway. She stated that the intention of the panel discussion was to clarify the terms, and to better understand how these themes relate to women’s issues.



The Coordinator provided an overview of the state of gender in the world today saying that “our cities, institutions and society have been established from the standpoint of men over thousands of years. Science and technology have also been dominated by men. It is not too much to say that most of the things we enjoy now have been invented by men’s ideas and technology.” She provided the example of Gerber baby food which whose history she stated to be that, “In mid-1900s, in Sweden, an old man had to prepare baby food when he took care of his daughter’s baby because she went on her honeymoon. He then realized that it took a lot of time because he had to chop the food into pieces and grind it. He then got the idea to jar the time-consuming baby food and established the baby food company. We now take baby food for granted, but originally it was invented by a man’s idea.” She also gave the example of the invention of the washing machine about which she states that, “A man had to do laundry for his wife, who was sick in bed. As you are aware, doing laundry by hand is quite tough. This experiences lead to him to invent a spin-drier.”

She noted the recent sluggishness of the economy and the improbability of swift economic recovery. While she notes the benefit women have reaped from the inventions of men, she hypothesizes that economic underperformance is related to the underutilization of women’s potential contributions. She states that it is now for women to contribute their ideas to our society. She believes that cities should be built around

and based on women's perspectives, enhancing the overall quality of life. She affirms, "we must to look at cities with 'gender glasses'."

With this, she passed the floor to Cebu City Mayor, Tomas Osmeña and Visakhapatnam City Mayor, Rajana Ramani for their respective presentations on the successes and difficulties they faced as they worked to make their cities more gender responsive.

The Case of Cebu City, the Philippines: Establishment of Municipal Act and Budgetary Measures to prevent Domestic Violence from happening.

Mayor Osmena said that Cebu City is situated in the center of the Philippines and is the heart of commercial, industry and financial business with well-developed ports and service centers, specialized in health and education. Its economic structure has been remarkably diversified. With the present population of about 600,000 to 700,000, Cebu City is known as the first city in the Philippines to have been developed by the Spanish people. It is also the city where Christianity was introduced and has a number of cultural heritages.



As the Mayor of Cebu City, he believed that the protection of rights of vulnerable people including women and their empowerment are important. With that belief, had been implementing measures to improve the status of women.

For instance, traffic was controlled to accommodate a women's street demonstration to celebrate the Women's Day and the participation of the municipal staff in the event was promoted. Cebu City has also provided facilities and funding for women's activities.

He relates the government response when women of an NGO called "Lihok Pilipina", working on the prevention of domestic violence (DV) came to visit us with the data showing that six out of ten women fall victim to domestic violence. In response to their claim, the city came forward to provide funding to help them hold trainings that were useful for the prevention of domestic violence in each area.

The participants of the trainings are 2,754 volunteers in each area including experts in various fields such as health, medical services and education. This training quickly became prevalent and led to establish committees to organize similar trainings in many areas in the Philippines.

Cebu City also enacted a regulation on gender issues in March 2001, and one on the prevention of sexual harassment in June 2002 respectively. Under these regulations, research was conducted and accordingly, measures were taken to appropriate a reasonable budget for such purposes. The budget of 1.2 million peso was earmarked in 2002 and was increased 12.5-fold to 15 million peso in 2004.

With this funding, the city developed a system to monitor the course of how the assistance fund is being used, and conducted gender workshops for municipal officials, city assemblymen and court justice. Such activities are under the control of the department of Social and welfare of Cebu City and the expansion of a range of activities carried out contributed to setting the trend of gender mainstreaming.

More opportunities today for the representatives of private citizens to participate in a wide range of city councils and committees have become open. The number of such members increased from 28 to 58, and the three out of four committees that exist are chaired by women.

He commented that the realization of government administration that is insightful and responsive is what he envisions as an ideal government administration. In closing, he commented that the challenge ahead is *“to administer affairs of state that build a society based on justice, freedom, equality and fairness”*.

The Case of Visakhapatnam City, India: From Silence to Participation



Mayor Ramani opened stating that the life of an average Indian woman still remains chaotic. In addition to being the binding force at home, in most of the households, women share the burden of bringing in financial resources to run the family. Women rear the children, attend to the household chores on a no wage basis and fulfill the needs of the husband even while falling as a victim to domestic violence.

Mayor Ramani cited the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992, enacted by the government of India, that paved the way to bring in a ‘new lease on life’ to women’s already strangled public life. An important clause in the amendment was the 33% reservation of women in Urban Local Bodies. She noted that the Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation showed enough courage and maturity to implement the act in toto.

Mayor Rajana Ramani described her role as, for the first time in the history of the Corporation, she entered the Mayor’s chamber to hold this prestigious position in local

governance. She explained that with a clear vision to transform Visakhapatnam, the City of Destiny, into a women friendly destination, she initiated changes in the local self-governing mechanisms to redefine the women's destiny into one of self-empowerment coupled with motivated existence.

Furthermore, she described the current status of women in governance stating that at the moment, *“out of the 50 Corporators, 20 elected are women-thus empowering them to adorn the decision-making parlors of the Corporation. The Corporation also co-opted two women members into the executive body. Out of the total 3500 employees that form the workforce of the Corporation, 1129 are women. In addition, all community health volunteers, balwadi instructors, sewing, adult and non-formal education instructors are women.”*

Initiatives such as the Urban Community Development Project launched in 1979 have been designing and implementing programs and activities towards empowering women. Furthermore, through the much-acclaimed comprehensive on-line civic service project “SAUKARYAM” of the Corporation, the first of its kind in India, women are experiencing a different kind of empowerment in the realm of cyber activity. The e-governance facility emphasizes the need to be computer literate and encourages the women to be so.

The Corporation has devoted every Wednesday for the redressal of the grievances of women exclusively where they discuss their problems related to civic affairs with the authorities concerned and with the honorable Mayor through out the day. The Community Managed Sanitation program JANACHAITYANYA meaning ‘Peoples’ Awakening’ and SUBHRAM meaning ‘Cleanliness’ that calls for self-help and reflects neighborhood spirit are outcome of such a women redressal mechanism.

Under JEEVANADHARA meaning flow of life, a record number of 6,548 domestic tap connections were provided with a 50% subsidy, thereby significantly reducing the element of uncertainty in the availability of domestic water.

To ensure women's participation in the city's civic life, the Corporation has promoted 2400 ‘Self-Help Groups’, which Mayor Ramani explained to be tools for capacity building among women below the poverty line. Once successful, these groups are granted a revolving fund of Rs. 1000/- and the Corporation arranges loans from Nationalized Banks.

Yet another initiative to enhance the financial potential of women is the Development of Women and Child in Urban Areas (DWCRA) groups. Such groups are given a loan subsidy up to 1.25 lakhs for its income generation activities.

Due to the lead role taken by the Corporation in democratizing the community

structures through the formation of clusters, the groups are made more accountable to each other and themselves. Consequently, the members of these bodies will identify the problems, design appropriate strategies and methods, explore new areas of operation, and formulate possible solutions. To provide further support, the Corporation additionally provides technical or scientific training to the members of these clusters.

Mayor Ramani went on to illustrate how, through a novel pedagogic program, the Corporation provided certification to newly literate women after six months of extensive interactive mode of learning. This innovative program at the 'Akshara Visakha' literacy program aimed to enabling illiterate women to make themselves literate. The women came together as groups, identified their instructor and undertook the learner-centered-learning exercise deciding their instructor and undertook the learner-centered-learning exercise deciding themselves the location and timings for classes.

In addition to the Government Schemes and Projects including convergence services, Mayor Ramani notes that the Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation has allotted 35% of the budget amount towards women and child development activities.

Furthermore, a Women's Counseling Center aimed at providing counseling fundamental legal rights training, thereby enabling them to protect themselves against possible harassment is in the process of being established..

These policies, initiatives and commitments have together transformed the participation of women in development, which has resulted directly in their empowerment.

In closing, Mayor Ramani recalls that women's empowerment is a multi-dimensional process, made possible through the realization of women's full identity and powers in all spheres of life. She affirms that through its women friendly initiatives, Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation has become a role model, by empowering its women to be part of its self-governing mechanisms in the rapid urbanization scenario.

COORDINATOR: Coordinator Mari Christine, thanked the Mayors for their presentations, and requested the reactions of the panelists.

TAKAYAMA: Fumiko Takayama, the President of ASUBARU, Fukuoka Prefectural Center for Promotion of Gender Equality as of March 8, 2004 thanked and complimented Mayor Osmeña for his bottom-up approach. She saluted Cebu citizens for having taken the initiative themselves to work on local issues, making organizations with municipal support, and drawing up Municipal Codes and articles. Ms. Takayama was encouraged to see the movement spreading throughout the country.



This was then contrasted with Japan's traditionally top-down approach where she said that movements happen in the world first and subsequently the Japanese government makes a system to respond to them. These systems are then passed down to prefecture, city, town and village in descending order. In the case of gender equality governance, she commented that the bottom-up approach is more effective, and that its effectiveness in this situation is notable when compared to other fields.

On the other hand, she commented that the strengths of a top-down approach were highlighted from Visakhapatnam City Mayor Ramani's presentation as Mayor Ramani illustrated how India's constitutional amendment guaranteed 33 percent reservation for women to enter into local politics. In Visakhapatnam City, women who took official positions are working hard for women in need of empowerment. While women still cannot become the head of a state in some countries, Ms. Takayama states the importance of talented women taking official positions based on their individuality and ability, and in turn, helping to uplift other women. She commented that in Japan, there are many women who are talented and original but who don't have enough chances to show their ability and are taking great pains to win the opportunities.

SATO: Toshiro SATO established a company called Environmental Design Organization, that promotes city management and town development from the 'hardware' side. He noted his appreciation for the Mayors' presentations, admiring the effective implementation through municipal budget allocation and the reservation of local political seats that have a net effect of increased reliance on 'hardware'. He commented on the strength of the concrete numbers such as 5% of the municipal



budget allocated for women issues and more than 30% reservations for women to enter local politics.

Mr. Sato remarked that, to date, city management has been basically driven by men. It wasn't until around 1985 when the female student enrollment for architecture reached to the about the same male enrollment in the U.S., the world's leading gender-equality country. In his experience, entering university 30 years ago, he recalled only one or two students from among 30 architectural major students were female. By contrast, he noted that the gender distribution today is fairly even.

Nonetheless, he remarked that it will take 20 to 30 years until the female students get trained, start working and developing concrete plans, and create substantive achievements. He remarked having realized from the Mayors' presentations that in the meanwhile we should change our society from a 'software' side by earmarking a certain amount of budgets for women-friendly city management, sending female lawmakers to local politics and so on.

KIMOTO: Kanae Kimoto is the Secretary-General of a non-profit organization called The Asian-Pacific Children's Convention in Fukuoka. She was deeply impressed by Cebu Mayor Osmeña's presentation. Mayor Osmeña had mentioned that as the citizens' movement gained power, their voice started to be reflected in politics. Ms. Kimoto commented that his statements had given her hope – "that if we continue what we are doing now, we might be able to change Fukuoka for the better in the future". She also found herself inspired and in agreement with Mayor Osmeña's statement that those who are working for a better community are mostly women.



As an NPO official and as the mother of two children, she felt empowered by Visakhapatnam City Mayor Ramani who confidently believes women should actively participate in society and show their abilities. Through Mayor Ramani's speech, Ms. Kimoto concurred that women should get involved in society, considering their roles and realizing their potential, and remarked feeling a surge of awareness and confidence through this affirmation.

COORDINATOR: The Coordinator, Mari Christine pointed out the distinction between the issues of cities such as Cebu and Visakhapatnam in developing countries and the issues being faced in Japan. For one, she noted that these countries are at different stages of social and economic development. In Japan, women were already given various rights before facing problems. Though many women had fought for gender equality before World War II, most Japanese women didn't have to fight for their rights aggressively. After the war, women were able to gain various rights very quickly. On the other hand, even now in Cebu and Visakhapatnam, women have to start from struggling to gain their fundamental rights. Given this contrast and the challenges that each presents, she commented the value and richness of exchange possible amongst the set of panelists.

As UN-HABITAT's Fukuoka office carried out a questionnaire survey on 'Women-friendly city management' targeting city and ward offices in Japan, Ms. Yamamoto Hiroko, Secretary-General of Japan HABITAT Association, a specified nonprofit corporation, was introduced to provide an interim report on the findings of the study.

YAMAMOTO: Ms. Hiroko Yamamoto explained that the UN-HABITAT Fukuoka office carried out a questionnaire survey on 'Women-friendly city management' as a part of the First Asia-Pacific Contest Towards Women-friendly Cities. This survey aimed to ascertain the actual state of 'Women-friendly city management' activities in Japan and to establish a survey model for the Asia-Pacific region.

The questionnaire items were 76 in total. They included the status of established Municipal Codes, promotional systems, women's participation in city management policy and decision-making processes, city management for better female working conditions, city management to promote women's empowerment, safe and secure city management, awareness and enlightenment, the existence of monitoring surveys and so forth.



In total, 699 questionnaires were distributed including each of Japan's city offices and 23 ward offices in Tokyo. The survey period was from January 27 to February 13, 2004. As it was a mail-in survey. 399 mail surveys were returned, accounting for 57.1 percent of total recipients.

Turning to the interim results of the report, she explained that, first, in regards to gender policy and improvement of laws including Municipal Codes, improvement was notable through the maintenance of a department responsible for gender policy, the

existence of promotional systems, and through the ratio of women in councils. Furthermore, she noted that training and PR activities were implemented. In response to the question, “Does your office have a department in charge of gender policy (measures against gender inequality)?”, the study showed that 94.7% of all the respondents answered affirmatively. Regarding gender training for city workers, 76.4% of offices were found to have provided training.

On the other hand, a mere 19.3% have established Municipal Codes on gender, with only 6.3% having target female reservation for administrative positions. A mere 1.5% said they have target female reservation for recruitment. Ms. Yamamoto highlighted these findings while commenting that, in light of these findings, adequate concrete measures have not been taken.

She continued to explain that there were 19 questionnaire items on the promotion of better working conditions for women. A majority of respondents noted taking action in only 4 of these 19 areas. The areas in which support is being provided by a majority of respondents are: in support of families raising schoolchildren, installation of toilet facilities for children, senior-friendly institution planning and fostering of care-givers. Ms. Yamamoto warned that on the other fifteen items, initiative was lacking. To the question of whether an office is encouraging companies to promote women, 15.8% of municipalities answered affirmatively. Furthermore, the rate of administrative institutions encouraging companies to develop a child-care leave system is at 25.1%, about a quarter. These rates demonstrate that municipalities are not working hard enough to improve the working environment for women.

The Japanese government defines the gender-equal society as ‘a society where man and women respect the other’s human rights and share their responsibilities, and every citizen is able to fully exercise their individuality and abilities regardless of gender.’ Ms. Yamamoto affirmed that ‘Women-friendly city management’ is an activity to try to realize this very sort of community from the municipal level. Remarking that these results are from what is merely an interim report, she commented that Japan is still a developing country when it comes to ‘Women-friendly city management’. Ms. Yamamoto strongly encouraged the continued promotion of ‘Women-friendly city management’ at the municipal level.

COORDINATOR: Coordinator Mari Christine remarked the wide variation of women’s issues across the region and noted that it follows that the solutions would also be varied. In India, poverty is a big problem. Women cannot spare time for themselves because they are busy drawing water. Indian administration needs to

address these issues. Cebu city needs to persist in its search for an effective means to the issue of domestic violence (DV). In Japan, one of the big issues is the declining birthrate. She remarked that the number of women who don't have a child because of rising educational costs is on the increase. She asked, "How should local governments in Japan tackle this issue?", commenting that though we may agree to push 'Women-friendly city management' further, in practice, it's difficult to choose one common issue to address. She turned the floor to the panelists, asking which issue they each see as a priority.

OSMENA: Mayor Osmeña commented first, noting the relevance of cultural context, and the strong impact of culture on societal willingness to embrace change. He noted that culture is something that goes sometimes beyond logic, and that traditional means of doing things a certain way is passed from one generation to the next, which requires more than just a simple assertion to change things. In both the Phillipines and even in Japan, he said, it is somehow not highly acceptable, for example, to have very senior executives who are female. He further noted that to some extent, this is even more acceptable in the Phillipines than in Japan. As a matter of fact, the Phillipines has had two Presidents that are female. He commented that Japan is still a long way off from achieving what our President today and former President Corazon Aquino has attained, since these things cannot be changed overnight. These things seem to be very much programmed in the subconscious, he commented, and consequently old values have a way of maintaining themselves.

Mayor Osmeña stated that, in the Phillipines, the cultural values that are deeply engrained, so it will take more than just a simple advocacy in trying to change the way people look at things.

COORDINATOR: Mari Christine noted the connection between Visakhapatnam City Mayor Ramani's use of the phrase 'silent culture' to Mayor Osmeña's remark on culture. The act of giving voice to our opinions is very important to get away from silent culture. The coordinator further affirmed that the need to create a town where women can easily speak out and raise their voices, before turning the floor to the Mayors for their comments.

OSMENA: Mayor Osmeña continued to note that some of the obstacles should be looked at not only in men but also in women. In the case of the Phillipines, when there have been celebrated cases of domestic violence (DV), he notes having asked himself,

“Is this a new surge, or has it always been there and it’s only now that women are now willing to speak out?”

He highlighted that this is what Bantai Banay, the group Tessie Fernandez organizes, has done in the Philippines. Instead of simply reacting to a particular case, these groups go into the community and talk about domestic violence. As they keep talking about it, they create awareness, so that should there be a case of domestic violence in a given community, the community members already know where to run or who to talk to. Mayor Osmeña emphasized the significance of this approach in changing the way people look at things. By continuously supporting cases of where there has been discrimination or abuse, the community is encouraged and empowered. By showing people that there is not as much need for fear as in the past, people realize that by coming out they will not suffer from embarrassment, nor will they be looked down upon by society.

RAMANI: Mayor Ramani commented that many people think that in India the women stay at home, raising and caring for children. Yet she has found, after becoming Mayor and visiting many conferences, that Indian women are very interested in politics. They are assuming top positions and rising to the executive level; notably, women have taken the five chief ministerial positions. In terms of family, children, homes, everybody has their problems. She said, however, that one must “come out of that trauma”. She viewed it as “a trauma, like confining ourselves to our household activities.”

Mayor Ramani recalled that when she became the Mayor, the first lady mayor of her city, people started looking at her and questioning her actions as she undertook major changes involving increased access for the citizens. She recounts that during her campaigning efforts she vowed that every Wednesday, or once in the week, is a day allotted for women problems. All the officials are available on Wednesday; women are welcomed to her office to share their grievances, and to participate in discussions with city officials about what they expect of their city administration and to see what the city administrators can do for them.

She clarified that it was through this process that they started implementing all the programs in Visakhapatnam: the actual ‘Visakha’, a literacy program for women, and improvements to the domestic water supply. She shared that “*previously they didn’t want to have a domestic water supply. They wanted only on the public tap connections, public water. So, all the ladies used to come from the slum areas, and sometimes they used to argue. I said to stop those arguments. What is your*

suggestion? What do you want us to do? Then, they came out with: if you provide us with the subsidized rate, for a lesser price, lesser tariff, we will be willing to have our water connection to our houses.” This is how a solution was achieved.

The process in Visakhapathnam has been one of interaction with women. Mayor Ramani recounted that first appeals to the women by acknowledging that women have to undergo a lot of sacrifices. She pointed out that the impact of gender roles and relations is profound on the expectations of community members of both genders. However, she argued that while everyone wants to have some recreation, we cannot be on perpetual vacation. She affirmed that we must question our contribution to society to see how we can contribute to creating the change we wish to see.

While India has a 33 percent reservation for women to enter into local politics, she said the real question is how many women choose to come out of their houses. Elaborating on the rigorous demands of the life of a public servant, she said, *“They don’t want to sacrifice their lives. They don’t want to sacrifice their timing.”* However, she said that it is with this dedication that a day comes when the whole world looks upon the woman. Not only in a country, not only in a state, but United Nations Organizations also can be headed by a woman. That day will come if we endure some sacrifices.

She commented that women in her city have come to understand her appeals, having been in politics for twenty years, building strong relationships with people and women’s organizations. Now her city is on its way to creating a women friendly city, which will give way to a women-friendly country as well.

COORDINATOR: Mari Christine thanks the Mayors for their input.

TAKAYAMA: Fumiko Takayama valued Mayor Ramani’s story, impressed by her call for people to assess their contribution to society.

Ms. Takayama remarked that not only the Fukuoka government, but that every local Japanese government has been promoting comprehensive gender equality, improving Municipal Codes and making a strategic plan. This comprehensive scope means that we should promote gender equality in all fields. For example, in the field of agriculture, we should create a women-friendly agricultural society where more women can work. In the field of welfare, women-friendly welfare should be realized. Public administration has been developing the initiative intensively. She noted that despite some people’s resistance to social change, she thinks that Japan is nonetheless heading for a gender-equal society.

Ms. Takayama stated two examples of shifts in the gender role paradigm in agriculture and in wellness care. For example, in the agricultural field, a Japanese farming village still maintains old traditions, whether they're "good" or "bad", people there are sometimes less tolerant of women taking active roles in society than those in urban areas. Even in a conservative area, women must start thinking about the ways they can incorporate their point of view into what the status quo is, to change it for the better, and then actually begin taking steps.

The farming industry has produced and marketed many agricultural products which meet the standardized size. That's the main way they earn money. But generally speaking, women in farming families want to produce safer food and vegetables because they are responsible for what family members eat and since they actually work as farmers themselves. They are eager to promote their farm products, saying they are safer and more delicious even though their shapes are not as good-looking. These women hold a morning market and sell their farming products directly to urban consumers. Some of these businesses are quite successful. First, they held a small morning market by renting a small tent but later they have incorporated their business establishing a farm stand.

In the field of wellness care, as both direct service care providers and patients are mainly women, they tended to see this care as an extension of household work and thought it's not good to "cash in" on these types of services. But now these women are trying to assume these roles as a professional job. If women can find an interface between what they want to do and what they can do for society, there would be more fields where they can show their abilities.

Ms. Takayama further noted the difference between India and Japan. In India there are five females in high ministerial roles in addition to a multitude of female mayors, and many women eager to play a responsible role.

In Japan, women are highly educated and that, generally speaking, the Japanese context is not one in which a literacy class is needed. According to the 'Human Development Report' released by UN Development Program (UNDP) in 2000, Japan ranked 9th in the world at Human Development Index (HDI), which is calculated based on average life expectancy, educational standard and national income. On the other hand, Japan ranked 41st on Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM), which is calculated based on women's income, percentage of female specialist personnel and technical workers, proportion of female administrators and managers. Japan's HDI is high and that means there are many highly-educated women who have sufficient

skills to contribute to society. Ms. Takayama noted, however, that there are very few opportunities for them, which must be addressed.

Many women are considering what they can contribute and taking action in each area accordingly. Ms. Takayama stated her firm belief that women have the power to make the current structures operate more effectively and to change the system. These grassroots women's activities are exacting democracy. She believes that a democracy like this will lead for the establishment of gender equality.

COORDINATOR: After concurring with Fumiko Takayama's statements, Coordinator Mari Christine turned the floor over to Mr. Sato by asking him what he thinks is needed for 'women-friendly city management'.

SATO: In agreement with Mayor Osmeña's earlier statement on the cultural aspects of domestic violence (DV), Mr. Sato noted having seen a similar dynamic at work in his field. He notes that in the construction and urban planning fields, there are some superstitions or traditional cultures, which say that women are impure. It is said that when a woman gets into a construction site of making a tunnel, the god of the mountain will get angry, therefore, something will go wrong during the construction.

Furthermore, in today's living environment, most houses being built strategically and deliberately. For example, when looking at the housing advertisement for a condominium or a detached house in the weekend newspapers, he said that the room arrangement is nearly identical from one space to the next. When it comes to condominiums, 99% of them have the same floor plan, including the number of rooms, the price and the floor heating system. The same can be said of most detached houses. Most of them have very similar structures with 60 or 70 tsubo (ground-floor areas).

The assumption used when making a plan of condominium building or detached house is based on a typical nuclear family with a father, a mother and two or three children. We have still been affected by the old family image that was politically created during the past period of high economic growth. The image is that men should work long hours as a worker and women should keep house and raise children at home. It is safe to say that there is no house designed for a single-parent family or friends who want to live together. After having reviewed dwelling spaces, Mr. Sato noted that there are few cases that you see a house designed from the perspective of women's social advancement. In this light, he suggested that one should seek to question everything in daily life. He suggested in fact that looking at the world from the

perspective that this world has been established by men's ideas, one will find lots of ludicrous things.

He offered a concrete example of his thoughts along these lines: *"For instance, in Nakasu, an entertainment district in Fukuoka, there is a public comfort station located along a riverfront of the Naka River. The lady's lavatory and gentleman's one are built back to back. I have been thinking that it must be inconvenient for women to use it, especially at night. No one really knows what kinds of criminal offenses might happen. But if we had considered women's convenience, we would have built the lavatories apart from each other. Instead we put priority on efficiency and budget and had such public comfort station."*

By contrast, Mr. Sato argued, some men like keeping house or cooking. He encouraged people, in raising their children, to not reinforce gender roles by saying, "Don't cry when you fall down. Get up on your own." If one's son likes cooking, there is no problem that you have him help in the kitchen. He stated that this would begin to open the door to a wider choice of occupation for men, ranging from male nursery teachers, male nurses and male flight attendants.

He noted the importance of reciprocal extension between men and women in that sense. Men should venture into fields of employment that have been occupied by women. The status quo is a product of deliberate and political intention that Mr. Sato proposes we review with a critical eye.

COORDINATOR: Thanking Mr. Sato, the Coordinator turned the floor to Ms. Kimoto.

KIMOTO: Kanae Kimoto commented that opportunities for international communities such as today's forum provide an opportunity to come to better understand the similarities and differences between cultures.

However, she noted that by staying in Japan without opportunities to talk to non-Japanese, one can sometimes feel it difficult to recognize that everyone has their own personality regardless of sex. Even in a culture that seems to be homogeneous, there are differences and various concepts of values. She hopes that we will be able to care about others and try to understand each other by expressing our opinions and listening to others', instead of rejecting diversity.

While acknowledging the necessity of establishing laws and social systems, Ms. Kimoto commented that they alone cannot realize social improvement, which relies on whether or not a system has a people-friendly point of view. Change depends on

whether there is an atmosphere or a mental climate in which 'hardware' can be comfortably used.

She provided an example to illustrate her concern. "When your kid gets sick, you have to take a leave of absence and go to the nursery school to pick up your kid. In this situation, you cannot leave work earlier without your colleague's understanding and a good workplace atmosphere to let you go." We can realize a society in which we maximize our individual abilities and support one another, but only after having advanced our working environment, society and social climate.

As Mayor Osmeña had mentioned that realizing gender-sensitive municipal administration is, in itself, good politics. In agreement with this statement, Ms. Kimoto commented that in order to realize a people-friendly society, we should not leave issues for others to resolve. She encouraged people's involvement in society and the open expression of opinions. In closing, she affirmed that one needs to have a firm sense of citizenship or social responsibility.

COORDINATOR: Thanking Ms. Kimoto, the Coordinator acknowledged the contribution of the 5 panelists on 'Women-friendly city management'.

In agreement with panelists' statements today, Ms. Christine concurred that boys and girls in Japan are raised differently. For example, she said that girls are often told, "You should go to junior college instead of university". By contrast, boys are often nursed with tender care in the expectation that they might inherit the family house and care for the parents into old age.

Ms. Christine noted that in Islamic countries today, women have no right to own and inherit land, as was the case in Japan until the war. Today in Japan, since the end of World War II, parents' property is distributed equally to children regardless of sex. However, she commented that still today a daughter occasionally renounces the right of succession because parents want their eldest son take over as head of the family.

The coordinator went on to ask rhetorically, "*Why does she have to waive her inheritance? Say she inherits property equally and if the head of the family has some troubles, she goes to support them. Is it impossible? In addition, why is it taken granted that the eldest son succeeds to the head of household?*" Ms. Christine affirmed that, as Mr. Sato mentioned, it's important to cast a suspicious glance at things that have been taken for granted.

Furthermore she said that the more women participate in society, the more easily a women-friendly community from a women's perspective can be created. While Japan

is a developing country on this matter, she anticipated that the new Japanese society will be created by women.

The Coordinator then opened the floor to the audience for their questions and contributions.

OGATA: A question from the floor for the two Mayors.

“We, Japanese are high at Human Development Index, but low at Gender Empowerment Measurement. I think the reason comes from Confucianism that preaches woman should be modest. On the other hand, The Philippines and India have produced the female presidents and prime minister. Women in intellectual class are highly educated and have a strong gender consciousness. When we put things in perspective, do you think religious factors have to do with gender problem? Women are discriminated culturally and socially, which is a universal phenomenon. I would like to ask the two Mayors, what do you think is the main reason of the discrimination against women in each of your countries?”

OSMENA: Mayor Osmeña explained how in the case of the Philippines, the country had been under a very cruel dictatorship that had firmly embedded itself to the extent that people had a sense of helplessness, if not hopelessness. When Ninoy Aquino came back from the United States and was assassinated as he stepped off the airplane, the Philippines was willing to accept drastic change oust its leader. At the time, the person who was most likely to untie the opposing political forces was the assassinated opposition leader’s wife, Corazon Aquino. Mayor Osmeña further commented that, faced with a need to remove a very bad leader by the name of Ferdinand Marcos, people were willing to forego traditional values.

Mayor Osmeña said that, in the case of the Philippines, it took a trauma, an assassination, and a cruel dictatorship for people to be openly willing to go beyond maintaining traditional values. He noted that perhaps one of the contributing factors for people to be willing to accept change is the strong desire to get out of the status quo.

RAMANI: Mayor Ramani highlighted that female leadership role models are present in India, from Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister, to her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Sonia Gandhi, who currently runs the same party. In the case of India, there are varied forces because India is unified and diverse with different languages, different castes, sub-castes, and above all, the haves and have-nots, the poor, the poorest of the poor. She noted that in spite of all these things, the religion, Hinduism, always says

that wherever a woman is praised and given importance, they are in God's state, they are the God's lieu. Therefore, there is a pervasive undercurrent of religious imperative.

Mayor Ramani shared that recently, with the changes in education and development of communication networks, women are beginning to take the lead. Furthermore through constitutional amendments, there are political reservations, education reservations, job opportunities, and above all, women have property rights. Women are entitled to equal rights within the family. She noted that these changes affect women as they are now prospering financially, politically socially, and educationally. Mayor Ramani stopped to clarify that this is not the case across the board, and that this situation of prosperity and equality is not the case for some. *"It is not 100 percent."*

She continued stating that the women who are not currently enjoying this advancement must be educated about their rights. She affirmed that women should be made aware of what is happening for them, what rights the government is ensuring for them, and about their potential to participate and lead society.

SHIOTA: Comment and Question from the floor to the Panelists.

"I also would like to say my opinion. I have heard that the former Chinese Prime Minister, Deng Xiaopin, as saying, "We don't need more than two leaders to unify China with harmony and order." I hear he is talking about harmonizing two things, diversity and uniformity, that is, the idea of accepting diversity and at the same time seeking for uniformity instead of separating the two concepts as a totally opposite concept. As may be expected of the leader of the 1.2-billion Chinese people, I was really impressed by his wonderful idea.

Turning our attention to Japan, I basically approve of sexual equality, equal rights for men and women, and gender equality. However, I'm not all for shouting it in a loud and high-pitched voice.

Nowadays, the Japanese family has two leaders, a mother and a father. Today is also a competitive age. Everyone has grown up while being told again and again not to lose in the competition from a very young age. Therefore they assert their rights with each other even after they become parents. As a result, mood in a family goes from bad to worse.

In the case of domestic violence, husband undoubtedly uses physical violence to his wife but wife also uses verbal violence to her husband. Her accusations makes him wear out and rip him apart. As a result, they hate each other more fiercely and judge each other.

I believe that the most important thing in our family is unification with harmony and order. Recently, I sincerely hope people discuss this issue based on the idea of harmonizing two things, which is the idea of complementing, helping and encouraging each other. When the both sides begin to emphasize a sense of victimization, I think only a long list of complaints remain. I would like to hear panelists' opinions about it."

COORDINATOR: Thanking the audience member for his comment, turned the floor to Mayor Osmeña.

OSMENA: Mayor Osmeña acknowledged the gentleman's point that sometimes discussions can be construed as a battle of the sexes. *"I think men and women basically are the same. Men and women, there are some men that are smarter than women, there are some women that are smarter than men."*, he said. Where he comes from, he said he finds there is a strong bias against women in aspiring for leadership. Nonetheless, he found that as the "man on top" in Cebu that amongst 5,000 employees, he finds more available talent among women than men, and he seizes the opportunity to put talented people to work for him.

He went on to say that he doesn't see men and women as rivals. A mayor's goal is to have a very progressive, efficient organization, and so he said he must therefore always find the best person for the job. Because of culture, it's mostly women that are overlooked. He said that by taking the opportunity to utilize talented women, he has helped himself and his organization. He clarified that he is not trying to promote rivalries between men and women; but rather, just trying to see to it that we run a government as efficiently as possible.

On the topic of leadership within the family, Mayor Osmeña commented that he sees conflict within the family has to do with one's vision of leadership. Some parents want their children to be dependent on them for as long as possible, and others will sacrifice to teach the children everything that they know so that one day the child might not need them anymore. He noted that the latter form of leadership is a selfless leadership model, not unlike that which can be seen in politics. There are some political leaders that like the people to be dependent on them, and there are some political leaders that like to strengthen society to design their own obsolescence so that one day society might not even need them any more.

Mayor Osmeña said that ability in this area depends on how one looks at as himself as a leader, whether it be in government or whether it be in a family.

SATO: Mr. Sato agreed with Mayor Osmeña that when selecting a person for a given job, the most important thing is to choose a person from the standpoint of who is the most appropriate person for the job. After choosing a person, regardless of sex, who has the most necessary skill for the job, we can note that the person happens to be female or male, but not the other way around. He said that it is very important that this way of choosing an employee is implemented naturally.

Mr. Sato recounted a story, *“When I took an entrance exam to a high school, we had a rumor that a boy examinee passes on a tacit understanding if his test score is the same as that of a girl examinee.”* Furthermore, he notes they had only about 100 girl students out of 500 students in our high school days. Thankfully, by contrast, the current gender split at the same school is 50/50 today.

He further stated that he thinks men should support and help women, because I think that an equal opportunity for men and women has not yet been achieved.

RAMANI: Mayor Ramani commented that she doesn’t see this forum or discussion as a rivalry between men and women. International Women’s Day is celebrated throughout the world, as it is celebrated here today. In any society, men and women both have to play an important and equal role. It is that equality we are fighting for. It is not against the men, or to take over or go against men’s will or anything like that, she clarified.

Mayor Ramani appealed to the audience, *“So, kindly, the men who are here, my sincere appeal is: we are just asking for equal rights, equal opportunities, and we can show our capabilities. That’s it.”*

TSUTUMI: Comment from the Floor to the Panel.

“I’m working on a project to offer shelters in which battered women can take refuge from imminent danger, and also working as a researcher studying domestic violence. Let me speak of my own view from this standpoint.

One of the panelists mentioned earlier that men use physical violence while women use verbal violence, therefore both are to blame. This might be true for some families. However, according to a survey conducted by the General Administrative Agency of the Cabinet (Currently the Cabinet Office), one out of every 200 men said he has been subjected to a life-threatening physical violence from his wife, whereas in the case of women the rate is one out of every 20. In other words, when we focus on the serious violence, we can say that women are overwhelmingly vulnerable to domestic violence compared with men.

Japanese people have finally come to realize recently that domestic violence is a problem arises from the social structure and not a simple problem based on an individual level between men and women. This led to the enactment of 'the Domestic Violence Prevention Law'. I'm newly determined to work in collaboration with NGO members in order to promote this notion throughout our society."

TAKAYAMA: Ms. Takayama responded to the comment that unification with harmony and order is paramount by stating that when we demand our rights, we need to respect the rights of others

In this respect, gender doesn't matter. So far, she says, women's rights have not been fully guaranteed and they tend to demand a lot more than men do. But the most important thing is that men and women should respect each other's rights.

"In this sense, the word 'Harmony' sounds great, but if the harmony is brought about after one has oppressed human rights of the other, in other words, if it's a make-believe harmony, it is not welcome. When we insist our rights, we need to respect each other, and in some cases we need to learn to settle for less. If the harmony is produced this way, I'll accept it."

She expanded that the aim of gender equality is to realize a society where men and women fully exercise their abilities and participate in various fields without sacrificing their dreams based on their gender, then a new concept of harmony is needed.

COORDINATOR: Acknowledging that there are many things we can do for 'women-friendly City management', the Coordinator saluted those present in the audience who have changed the national policy through their activities. With a request for her to share her expertise, Ms. Christine turned the floor over to Ms. Yamamoto, who presented the findings of the interim report.

YAMAMOTO: Ms. Hiroko Yamamoto has been working as Secretary-General of the Japan Habitat Association. Simultaneously, she has been involved in an NGO called Asian Women and Children's Network for eight years, grappling with problems such as child prostitution, child pornography, child human trafficking and child commercial exploitation.

Many of you might remember that Japan was criticized by other countries at 'the 1st World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children' held in Stockholm in August, 1996. Japan was censured for various reasons. They said we are sending out prostitution tours, 80% of the videos distributed worldwide, that

magazines which show pornographic images of children originate in Japan, and that we are the number one country involved in producing and exporting child pornography.

She recounted feeling thoroughly ashamed of herself as a Japanese woman, hearing this information. She felt compelled to take a stand to protect children worldwide.

At that time, Japan had no law banning child pornography. Since it was extremely important to enact a law for defending children, she asked her friends and the local community for their cooperation on this issue. They wrote and faxed letters to the Diet for the establishment of the law.

After two years of hard work, the 'Law for Punishing Acts Related to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and for Protecting Children' was enacted in May, 1999. This law clearly stipulates in Article 1 Objective that the objective of this Law is to protect the rights of children. She commented that this was the first Japanese law to mention the protection of children's rights that they are very proud of the results of their efforts.

This opened the door for new laws to defend children's rights and women's rights such as 'Child Abuse Prevention Law' and 'Law for the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims'. She shared that from then on, when we thought something was wrong, they took action for change. She closed saying, "The experience helped us to restore lost pride as being Japanese".

MANANDHAR: Comment from the Floor to the Panelists.

"NAMASTE. I am Lajana from Nepal.

I am very pleased to be here to be the witness of this occasion that it is the first time given the awards of the Women-friendly Cities. It's a very happy occasion that at least the cities have introduced something, something different, something they have shown, although it may be small, but then still, it is an example that we all must feel inspired. We get inspiration, and probably when we go back to our own cities, we can also give this message: although very small, something is possible that will of course lead to a big way, lead a way for a change, for a better change for the lives of women all over the world.

If we talk about the problems of the women, I think they are actually burdened, they are burdened down to earth with the problems, thousands of problems that women face, and we will never end if we start talking about it. But of course, on this day, on the Day of International Women's Day, I think we also need to reflect, talk, think, and

think for a better future that at least, at least we can do, I think, and that will also give us inspirations.

Yeah, something has happened: something good has happened and something bad has also happened. When I remember my childhood, I used to feel more secure. But then, there were also many other problems. But today, I actually feel I have a fear for my daughters' security because many bad things have happened.

Good things like education and other skills and capacity development have happened, but then, there is a lot of harassment and abuse to security. And really, this all has a root also in the conflicts, all the cities and the countries;---not all the cities but many cities, many countries in this world are getting into the conflicts, internal problems, internal war that has also made a very negative impact on the lives of girls, women, children, of course in the cities as well.

So, how do we look at this? How do we see at this? How do we address these issues? I have actually read once, about two years back, there was a riot in an Indian city, in Hammdabad. Of course I read this in the newspaper, that during that riot a womb of a pregnant woman was cut open and the embryo was taken out. That kind of violence against women, can we imagine? This is happening every day. We talk about domestic violence. Violence, the degree of violence, has really gotten so bad, the killings, all sorts of things... it's not only mental torture, but even physical torture, like cutting the womb and taking the baby, the embryo out. Oh, God! How do we address this? How do we change the mentality of the people? How do we do this? Where do we go for a good future?

As one of our colleagues also mentioned child prostitution. Well, unfortunately, she said Japan is the export country of child prostitution, and unfortunately, Nepal is the host country. You know we do have a lot of women and child trafficking, that's a big problem. So, how do we address this?

I think the women need to get together, build solidarity, share with each other, relate with each other, talk to each other, and work together, we only can change our lives ourselves. ”

COORDINATOR: Thanking the audience member, the Coordinator acknowledged the tragedy and expressed her thanks for sharing these realities. She also gave an example of a recent case in Japan where a child was confined and fatally starved.

City management is about how people communicate with others in their community. The concept of 'women-friendly city management' doesn't mean constructing buildings

that are friendly to women, nor is it simply a city that is convenient for women. At the heart of the matter is how the people living in the same community share resources.

The Coordinator continued by offering the example of a UN Habitat project for women in Afghanistan that plans to provide one million houses by 2010. As mentioned previously, in the Islamic countries, women cannot own properties or buildings. Consequently, the women whose husbands were killed under the Taliban administration do not have houses in which to live and cannot raise their children in a safe environment. Even though they want to educate their children, their living conditions do not permit it as even their basic necessities are not secured. Under these circumstances, it is impossible to defend women's rights and support their self-actualization. The Coordinator provided this example as a demonstration of the first steps to provide them houses, which, in turn, guarantees their safety.

She noted that in comparison with these particular countries, the situation in Japan is much better. Nonetheless, she urged that it is paramount to continually improve upon society; hopefully, by doing so, Japan might become a positive role model in Asia.

She opened the floor to the 5 panelists for their closing remarks.

OSMENA: In closing, Mayor Tomas Osmeña of Cebu City, Philippines, said:

"I truly believe that the best way to teach is by example, and by giving, by citing many models. I think this would be one positive way, painless way, without imposing our values on others. By simply showing that life can be a little bit better by looking at many wonderful examples that have emerged.

And I would like to take this occasion that I feel very greatly honored that you have chosen our city to be one such example, although as I said I will make another confession. It is the ladies in Cebu that have taken the lead, not the Mayor. I just signed the check in support of them."

RAMANI: In closing, Mayor Rajana Ramani of Visakhapatnam City, India, said:

"Actually, very much impressed by this forum, and lots of things I have learned about the Japanese women, their feelings, how they are being treated in the society. But above all these things, my concluding remarks and my appeal is only one thing: that we need a healthy society. A healthy society means that both men and women, there are so many social evils existing in our society, we have to pass through those evils, we have to struggle for those things, and we have to prove ourselves that yes, my society, my city, my country, my nation, is a healthy nation, a healthy city.

With this, to achieve this, the teacher at the school level, the mother at home, and the city representatives, they play a very great role. They are the role models. I wish that the mother, the teacher, do work hard and be role models in bringing awareness amongst the girl children and also the women. Thank you."

TAKAYAMA: In closing, Ms. Fumiko Takayama, Former President of ASUBARU, Fukuoka Prefectural Center for Promotion of Gender Equality, said:

"I would like to mention two things. One is that at first we should do what we can do. Let's start with the issues connected to own communities. When we make a good result, the society appreciates what we have done. That means men appreciate it.

The other is that it is important to increase the number of men who sympathize with female perspective. Working in a local government office for a long time, I have been supporting affirmative action for gender equality. I've made efforts to promote the participation of the female members in councils and committees. However, listening to the opinions of the two male panelists today, I realized that it is also important to make more men share the women's point of view.

If I say, for example, "The city created from the male perspective is like this." people tend to react negatively toward my words. Contrarily, when the man like Mr. Sato says, 'Men created this society', everybody tend to agree with it nodding, "He is right." For this reason, I strongly think that we should try to make the men in the position of leadership understand this issue at the same time women go into the new fields."

SATO: In closing, Mr. Toshiro Sato, CEO of Environmental Design Organization, said:

"I am starting to think that housework is fun. I go to the kitchen and occasionally I find myself enjoying washing dishes. I enjoy buying my clothes. Your husband might feel the same way. Go shopping with your husband. Please share the fun part of your life with men.

Mayor Ramani told us that the women fundamentally have the interest and commitment in politics. I hope the Japanese women act the same way. Is it wonderful if more women run for city council? I think that women's situation would change little by little if women start doing what they can do in their daily life. I have really learned a lot today."

KIMOTO: In closing, Ms. Kanae Kimoto, Secretary-General of the Asian Pacific Children's Convention in Fukuoka, said:

“Today’s discussion inspired me with various new ideas. Through my experience I know that NPOs and NGOs are playing important roles in various fields. I think it would be good for them to have chance to report their activities on an occasion like today. Even though these activities are very valuable, they are not easily spread out. It takes long time for activities started with a small group to become a big movement. It is important to give them an opportunity to report their activities.

I have been too eager for managing both my career and household chores perfectly. However, discussion today has made me think that it’s OK for me to be more relaxed letting the tension out of my shoulders. Instead of holding my problem in my mind and trying to find the solution to it all by myself, if I tell that to my husband, my colleagues, and the people in my community, I might find someone to share my feeling with. We might be able to agree to act cooperatively for the solution. Don’t keep your problem in your mind. Raise your voice. Then, I am sure, we can change society.”

COORDINATOR: In closing, the Coordinator, Mari Christine said:

“When we have a problem concerning city management, what we have to do first is to share it with all the members in our community. What is important for everyone is also important for me, isn’t it? Informing everybody of our activities, we need to get everybody involved and take action cooperatively. This is the direction we should take to expand our network.

Today care-givers are female in most cases. Those who take care of old parents or grandchildren are women. Care-givers are in the position where they clearly see what is needed in their community. Women who learned about their community from the experience as care-givers can contribute to the city management a lot.

This is the first report of ‘Gender Respective Local Government Asia-Pacific Contest Towards Women-friendly Cities.’ We would like to continue this project in the future. Why don’t we each promote community management in our own towns?

Thank you for your attention.”

Annexe I: Indicators for Women-friendly Cities

In 2004, the UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (Fukuoka) held the First Contest for Gender Responsive Local Governments, Asia-Pacific. Cities that applied were asked a number of questions about their city. These questions, or indicators, were designed to encourage cities to become women-friendly and identify which cities are women-friendly cities and their level. At the Kasuga EGM, those indicators were revised and expanded. The indicators below are the result of that process. This is the first attempt at producing such indicators at the city level. They are designed to be easy for local governments, women's groups and NGOs to use. It is intended that these indicators will be adjusted and adopted at local levels. They are still a work in progress, and comments for further improvement are welcome.

Local governments and community organisations can use these indicators to check how women-friendly their city is. Cities that can successfully answer these questions are on the way to becoming women-friendly cities. Cities that cannot successfully answer these questions, either because they lack the information required or because they lack the relevant policy, have a long way to go to become women-friendly. If local governments and community organisations use these indicators regularly over time, they can check how much more women-friendly their city has become.

The Area	Legal and institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women at local level.	
A.1	Does your city have a gender equality policy at city level? (When was it adopted? What are its key features?)	Yes/No (Date of adoption; additional qualitative information)
A.2	Does your city have a gender policy action plan? (What are its key features)	Yes/No (Budget in absolute terms and as a percentage of total city budget; additional qualitative information)
A.3	Do you a gender-mainstreaming unit or inter-departmental committee to promote gender issues, either inside or outside of local government? (When was it set up? How many staff does it have? What is its budget?)	Yes/No (Date of set-up; staff numbers)
A.4	Do you provide gender sensitivity training for city employees? (Is this training compulsory? When was it set up? Who is targeted)	Yes/No (Yes/No; date of adoption)
A.5	Does your city have a mechanism for incorporating gender-based concerns, especially the concerns of local women or women's organisations, into its urban development policy? (What are its key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
A.6	Does your city collected gender-disaggregated data? (For which statistics does your city have gender-disaggregated data?)	Yes/No (List of statistics)
A.7	Does your city conduct surveys on citizens' attitudes to gender and the equal participation of women and men in city policy? (What questions are asked, and how often are they asked?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
A.8	Does your city carry out events to raise awareness of gender concerns? (How often does it do so?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
A.9	Does your city support women's centres and facilities? (What kind of support does it give?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
The Area	Women in Politics and Decision-Making	
B.1	What percentage of city government staff members are women? How does this differ according to rank?	Percentage of members disaggregated by rank
B.2	Do you have a target rate for the percentage of municipal employees that are female? (What is this target? Does this target apply to all ranks of employees? Which ranks does it apply to?)	Yes/No (Target percentage disaggregated by rank)
B.3	Does your city have a female mayor or deputy mayors?	Yes/No

B.4	What percentage of elected city representatives are women?	Percentage
B.4	Does your city have other affirmative action programmes to promote women's involvement in local government systems ¹⁰ ? (What are their key features?)	Yes/No
B.5	Does your city provide training for female political candidates? (What are its main features? How accessible is this training? What is the ratio of places to applicants? Does this training continue beyond elections?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
B.6	Does your city provide leadership training for women in non-governmental organisations, trade unions, or business organisations? (What are its main features? How accessible is this training? What is the ratio of places to applicants)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
B.7	Does your city have an urban policy advisory committee? If so, what percentage is female? Do you have a target percentage for female members?	Percentage of members; target percentage
The Area	Property Rights and Security of Tenure for Women	
C.1.	Do you have legislation ensuring equal inheritance rights for women? (What are its key features? How is it enforced?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
C.2	Do you have legislation ensuring equal property ownership rights for women? (What are its key features? How is it enforced?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
C.3.	Do you produce and distribute gender-disaggregated statistics on poverty? (What are some of the key statistics you have gathered? How have they changed in the past five years?)	Yes/No (Additional statistical information)
C.4	What percentage of land titles or occupancy licenses are jointly held by a man and a woman? What percentage are held by a woman only?	Percentage
C.5	Do you have policies or programmes to publicise information on tenure, occupancy, and registration of property procedures? (What kind of information is publicised? How often is it published?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
C.6	How many evictions take place in your city each year? (In what locations did these evictions take place? How many women were affected?)	Number (Additional quantitative information)

¹⁰ Such as specific targets, quotas and other types of affirmative action measures for the purpose of increasing women's representation in city government or in the city council

C.7	If evictions take place, do you have policy to provide temporary shelter for resettlement areas? Do you have policy to provide basic services to resettlement areas? (What are the key features of these policies?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
C.8	How many public toilets are there in your city per capita?	Ratio of people to toilet seats, with 50/1 an acceptable ratio
C.9	What is the ratio of community taps to households in your city, especially in slum areas?	Ratio of households to community taps, disaggregated by neighbourhood
C.10	Does your city provide subsidies for water connections or water supply? (What are the key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
C.11	Does your city publicise information on solid waste management to both women and men? (What are the key features of this information? How often is it published? How is it distributed?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
The Area	Education and Health for Women	
D.1	What percentage of the male and female population of your city is illiterate ¹¹ ? How has this changed in the last five years?	Percentage, disaggregated by gender
D.2	Do you have a policy to provide continued functional education for women? (What are its key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
D.3	Do you have an education policy that gives advice on gender issues (for example, to hold classes, extracurricular activities or field trips that deal with gender issues)? (What are its key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
D.4	Do you have programmes to promote health education amongst women? (What are their key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
D.5	Do you provide family planning programmes? (What are their key features)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
D.6	How many baby deliveries in your city are attended by skilled health personnel? (How many of these were attended by doctors and how many by community-based midwives?)	Percentage
D.7	What percentage of obstetricians and gynaecologists in your city are female?	Percentage
D.8	Do you have programmes to provide nutritional support to pregnant women? (What are their key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)

¹¹ Who cannot, with understanding, read or write a short simple sentence related to their everyday life

D.9	What percentage of your population has a sexually transmitted disease (STD)? (What is the percentage for different kinds of STD? What is the percentage for women and for men? What is the percentage according to age group? What is the percentage for urban sex workers?)	Percentage of a specified population (Disaggregated according to gender, age, STD and whether respondent is a sex worker or not)
D.10	Do you have gender-sensitive policies and programmes to prevent STDs? (What are their key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
The Area	Is your city safe for women to live in?	
E.1	How many reported cases of domestic violence are there in one year in your city? (How many of these reported cases resulted in convictions?)	Number of reported cases per population of 100,000 Number of convictions per population of 100,000
E.2	How many reported cases of sexual assault and rape are there in one year in your city? (How many of these reported cases resulted in convictions?)	Number of reported cases per population of 100,000 Number of convictions per population of 100,000
E.3	Do you have legislation against gender-based violence ¹² ? (What are its key features? How is it enforced?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
E.4	Do you provide services for the victims of domestic violence? (What are their key features? How available are these services?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
E.5	Do you provide gender awareness training for those who deal with gender-based violence ¹³ ? (What are its key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
E.6	Can victims of domestic violence use victim-friendly legal procedures ¹⁴ ? (What are the key features of procedures are available in your city?)	Yes/No, depending on whether such procedures exist (Additional qualitative information)
E.7	Does your city have legislation against sex tourism and trafficking of women? (What are its key features? How is it enforced?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
E.8	How many cases of prostitution and trafficking of women were reported in your city in one year? (How many of those cases resulted in convictions?)	Number of reported cases per population of 100,000 Number of convictions per population

¹² For example, domestic violence, marital rape, sexual violence, honour and dowry related violence, and so on.

¹³ For example, medical personnel, police personnel, members of the judiciary, and so on.

¹⁴ For example: can cases be tried under a female judge? can paralegals assist victims with their case?

		of 100,000
E.9	Do you provide services for the victims of prostitution and trafficking? (What are their key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
E.10	Does your city have a map indicating areas that have become hazardous as a result of violence against women? (How is this map publicised?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
E.11	Do you have a street-lighting policy that pays attention to issues of domestic violence? (What are its key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
E.12	Does your city have an anti-harassment policy? (What are its key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
E.13	Do public transport companies in your city provide a way of reporting cases of harassment? (What are its key features? How many cases reported resulted in convictions?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
E.14	Do police stations in your city have designated women's desks?	Yes/No
The Area	Women and Economic Activities. Does your city encourage economic independence for women?	
F.1	Does the city government offer maternity leave? How many days can female local government employees take as maternity leave? (What pay do they receive during this leave?)	Yes/No Number of days (Rate of pay as percentage of full-time pay)
F.2	Does the city government offer paternity leave? How many days can male local government employees take as paternity leave? (What pay do they receive during this leave?)	Yes/No Number of days (Rate of pay as percentage of full-time pay)
F.3	Do private organisations in your city offer maternity leave? How many days can employees take as maternity leave? (What pay do employees receive during this leave?)	Yes/No Average number of days (Average rate of pay as percentage of full-time pay)
F.4	Do private organisations in your city offer paternity leave? How many days can employees take as paternity leave? (What pay do employees receive during this leave?)	Yes/No Average number of days (Average rate of pay as percentage of full-time pay)
F.5	Do you have policies or programmes to promote maternity and/or paternity leave in private companies?	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)

	(What are their key features?)	
F.6	Does your city have legislation to prevent sexual harassment at work? (What are its key features? How is it enforced?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
F.7	How many cases of sexual harassment in the workplace are there in your city in a year?	Number of cases per population of 100,000
F.8	What percentage of the average annual men's salary do women in your city receive? (How does this differ according to role?)	Percentage of annual male salary disaggregated by gender
F.9	Do you provide household care, child-care or senior-citizen services? Do communities in your city provide these kind of services? (What are the key features of these services? How available are they?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information, number of places per applicant, number of places per population of 100,000).
F.10	Are there any micro-enterprise or micro-credit programmes in your city that aid women? (How many clients do they serve? What are they key features?)	Yes/No (Number of clients; additional qualitative information)
The Area	Women and the Media	
G.1	Are there gender related workshops or programmes for local media agencies in your city? (What are the key features? How often are these workshops carried out?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
G.2	What percentage of media agencies in your city have women's desks or women's sections?	Percentage
G.3	Does your policy have a policy on media coverage of domestic violence and abuse cases? (What are the key features of the policy?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
The Area	The Girl Child	
H.1	Do you have legislation ensuring equal inheritance rights for girls? (What are its key features? How is it enforced?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
H.2	Do you have legislation ensuring a minimum legal age for marriage? (What are its key features? How is it enforced?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
H.3	Do you have policies to promote girls' attending school ¹⁵ ? (What are the key features?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)

¹⁵ For example, free schooling, free meals

H.4	How many incidences of child abuse were reported in your city last year? (How many of those reports led to convictions?)	Number of reported cases per population of 100,000 Number of convictions per population of 100,000
H.5	Does your city provide services for vulnerable and disadvantaged children and youths? (What are the key features? How accessible is the service? Who does it help?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
H.6	Do you have legislation and policies to prevent female infanticide and pre-natal sex selection? (What are its key features? How is it enforced?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)
H.7	Do you have legislation and policies to prevent incest, child prostitution, child pornography and human trafficking? (What are their key features? How are they enforced?)	Yes/No (Additional qualitative information)

Annexe II: List of Participants

Afghanistan

Farah Province

1. Dr. Hamida Noori, Provincial Manager, Farah Province (UN Habitat Mission). Tel: +93-70-279-000; e-mail: hamidanoori@hotmail.com

Cambodia

Municipality of Phnom Penh

2. Ms. Mom Sandap, Director, Planning Department, Municipality of Phnom Penh, Office No. 57, 63 Str. Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Chamcar Mon District, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Tel: +855-12-834-842; Fax: +855-23-724-540; e-mail: khun@camnet.com.kh

India

INDCARE

3. Ms. Reeva Sood, Executive Director, INDCARE, F66 Green Avenue, Col Bhatia Road, Vikas Nagar, Hastal, New Delhi. Tel: +91-11-255-63131 / +91-11-256-49899; Fax: +91-11-255-63131; e-mail: reevasood@indcare.org, reeva_sood@yahoo.com

Visakhapatnam City

4. Mayor Rajana Ramani, Mayor, Visakhapatnam City, Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation, Tenneti Bhavanam, Aseelumetta Junction, Visakhapatnam 530 002. Tel: +91-891-746300, Fax: +91-891-275-2990

Indonesia

Komnas Perempuan (Indonesian National Commission on Violence Against Women)

5. Ms. Dewi Nova Wahyuni, Co-ordinator for Monitoring, Komnas Perempuan, Jl. Latuharhari 4B, Jakarta 10310, Indonesia. Tel: +62-21-3903963; Fax: +62-21-3903922; e-mail: komnasperempuan@cbn.net.id

Japan

Asubaru

6. Ms. Fumiko Takayama, Glover Plaza Building, Kasuga City 3-1-7, Fukuoka-ken, 816-0804, Japan. Tel: +81-92-584-3739; Fax: +81-92-584-1262; e-mail: c/o Ms. Motoyama, motoyama@asubaru.or.jp

Kasuga City Council

7. Ms. Taeko Funakoshi, Councillor, Kasuga City Council, Kasuga City 3-1-5, Fukuoka-ken, 816-8501 Japan. Tel: +81-92-584-1111; Fax: +81-92-584-1111; e-mail: f2yellow@csf.ne.jp

Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women

5. Ms. Yukiko Oda, Senior Researcher, Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women, Kitakyushu Otemachi Building 3F, Otemachi 11-4, Kokurakita, Kitakyushu, 803-0814, Japan. Tel: +81-93-583-3434; Fax: +81-93-583-5195; e-mail: oda@kfaw.org.jp

Toyo University

6. Dr. Toshinobu Fujii, Professor, Faculty of Regional Development Studies, Toyo University, 1-1-1 Izumino Itakura-machi, Ora-gun, Gunma 374-0193, Japan. Tel: +81-276-82-9023; e-mail: t-fujii@itakura.toyo.ac.jp

Nepal

Lumanti Support Group for Shelter

7. Ms. Lajana Manandhar, Director, Lumanti Support Group for Shelter, P.O. Box 10546, Kathmandu, Nepal. Tel: +977-1-5544926; Fax: +977-1-5520480; e-mail: lajana@lumanti.wlink.com.np

Sri Lanka

Colombo Municipal Council

8. Ms. Sharmila Gonawela, Councillor, Colombo Municipal Council, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka. Tel: +94-77-7704574 Fax: +94-11-2681613; e-mail: srij@sltnet.lk

Philippines

Cebu City

9. Mayor Tomas Osmena, Mayor, Cebu City, City Hall, Cebu City, 6000, the Philippines. Tel: +63-32-2532536. Fax: +63-32-253-7558
10. Ms. Nida Cabrera, Cabantan Street Bargay Luz, Cebu City, Philippines. Tel: +63-23-11794; Fax: +63-41-32137; e-mail: nidacabrera@hotmail.com

Lihok Pilipina Foundation

11. Ms. Teresa Banaynal-Fernandez, Executive Director, Lihok Pilipina Foundation, 102 P. del Rosario Ext., Cebu City 6000, the Philippines. Tel: +63-32-2548092; Fax: +63-32-2548072; e-mail: tessbf@mozcom.com

International Organizations

Asian Institute of Technology

12. Dr. Bernadette Resurreccion, Assistant Professor and Co-ordinator, Gender & Development Studies, Joint Program Committee Member, UMP-AIT, Asian Institute of Technology, Km42, Klong Luang, Pathumthani, Thailand 12120. Tel: +66-2-5245781; Fax: +66-2-5246166; e-mail: babette@ait.ac.th

UNDP-TUGI

13. Ms. Sri Husnaini Sofjan, Regional Programme Manager, UNDP-TUGI, P.O. Box 12544, 50782, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: +603-2095-2122 / +603-2091-5140; Fax: +603-2093-2361; e-mail: sri.sofjan@undp.org

CITYNET

14. Ms. Cristina Day A. Lacap, Programme Assistant, CITYNET, 5F, International Organisations Centre, Pacifico-Yokohama, 1-1-1 Minato Mirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama, 220-0012 Japan. Tel: +81-45-223-2162; Fax: +81-45-22-32161. e-mail: info@citynet-ap.org

UN-HABITAT

Gender Mainstreaming Unit

15. Lucia Kiwala, Chief, Gender-Mainstreaming Unit, UN-Habitat, P O Box 30030, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel: +254-20-623-025; Fax: +254-20-623080; e-mail: lucia.kiwala@unhabitat.org

Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (Fukuoka)

16. Mr. Jan Meeuwissen, Senior Human Settlements Officer
E-mail: jan.Meeuwissen@fukukoa.unhabitat.org
17. Ms. Mariko Sato, Human Settlements Officer
E-mail: mariko.sato@fukuoka.unhabitat.org
18. Mr. Ian Munt, Human Settlements Adviser
E-mail: ian.munt@fukuoka.unhabitat.org
19. Ms. Kayoko Koga, Gender Focal Point Assistant
E-mail: kayoko_koga@hotmail.com
20. Mr. Chris Hanretty, EGM Assistant
E-mail: christopher.hanretty@stannes-oxford.com

Address:

UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
ACROS Fukuoka 8th Floor, 1-1-1 Tenjin, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka 810-0001, Japan.
Tel: +81-92-724-7121; Fax: +81-92-724-7124;