

5<sup>th</sup> Kitakyushu Initiative Network Meeting  
10-11 February 2010, Kitakyushu, Japan



## Messages from KIN5 to MCED6

Session 4 - Thursday 11 Feb - 15:15 - 16:00 hours



## Findings

### 1. Asia-Pacific's urban challenge



- Sustainable and inclusive urban development is a defining issue for Asia-Pacific
  - 40% of Asians currently live in urban areas; by 2030, a majority (around 2.7 billion) will live in cities and towns; this means adding a new town of 130,000 every day for the next 20 years
  - The scale and pace of urbanization in Asia-Pacific is unprecedented in history
  - Over 80% of the region's GDP is produced in cities and towns
  - Over 40% of Asia-Pacific's urban residents live in slums, without adequate shelter and basic services
  - Cities account for 67% of all energy use and for 71% of all GHG emissions
  - Asia-Pacific stands to be most affected by climate change impacts

### 2. Successful approaches identified



- The challenge requires approaches for addressing urban sustainability that are, among others:
  - Cost-effective
  - Integrated
  - Synergistic
  - Catalytic
  - Participatory
- Strategies like green growth and approaches like co-benefits can be effective
- Tangible benefits from practices promoted by KI (environmental, but also economic and social)
- Leadership from local governments can be instrumental - champion cities

### 3. Replication and scaling-up: suggested approach



- A wealth of good practices are available, throughout Asia and beyond - some yet to be promoted
- The unprecedented urbanization of Asia-Pacific requires to quickly move beyond demonstration projects and pilots
  - Need to identify, adapt, replicate and up-scale good practices
- The complexity of the challenges require innovative thinking
  - Need to develop new and innovative approaches
- Essential elements for replication and scaling up
  - Leadership and political commitment - national and local
  - Role of central government - Policy and regulatory support
  - Public participation
  - Partnerships

### 4. Regional cooperation



- The scale, magnitude and nature of the challenge requires regional cooperation
  - Sharing good practices
  - Identifying policy options,
  - Capacity building
  - Technology transfer
- Important role of City-to-City cooperation - key role played by KI
- Commitments of KIN members
- Interaction with other networks and initiatives (e.g. CITYNET, ICLEI, CAI Asia, UN-HABITAT, UNCRD EST, UNEP, AWGESC, etc)
- Catalytic role of bilateral and multilateral funding - but need for local and national to match funds
- Commitment from GoJ to regional cooperation instrumental - we need more partners to join efforts

## Recommendations

### Recommendations



#### National governments need to:

- Support actions by local governments and integrate into national policy as required
- Support commitments from KIN member cities
- Build the business case for environmentally sustainable practices
- Utilize public funding to leverage private funding and create the necessary business environment
- Build capacities at local level to implement national policies
- Promote participatory approaches and establish effective partnerships

#### Regional partners need to:

- Strengthen national, regional and international networks
- Support champion cities to spread the message
- Facilitate access to resources