



2006 Biennial

Mayor's Asia-Pacific

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMIT

May 9 - 12, 2006
Melbourne, Australia

OVERVIEW

"We know that these mayors face politically difficult decisions on environmental infrastructure. MAPES can give them the courage to do the right thing"

- Brad Philips, Office of Environment and Social Development, Asian Development Bank

The Mayors' Asia Pacific Environmental Summit (MAPES) provides a unique forum for mayors and other local government officials in the region to promote sustainable development in their cities and build partnerships with business, donor organizations, and NGOs. MAPES delegates make "Mayors' Commitments" – commitments to actions they will undertake upon returning to their cities. Mayors' Commitments have addressed a wide range of problem areas and have included construction of wastewater treatment facilities and landfills, extension of water service coverage, rehabilitation of slum areas, improvements to river ecosystems, reductions in vehicle emissions, recycling programs, and tree planting.

Honolulu Mayor Jeremy Harris and GETF Principal Dr. Karl Hausker launched the first MAPES in 1999 and serve as Summit co-chairs. In September 2003, they hosted the third biennial MAPES, with delegates attending from over 20 countries. The Summit presented awards to 28 cities that excelled in meeting their past commitments (see list on page 3 below). In addition to the award and public recognition of excellence, each city received an added benefit: a scholarship for a promising resident of the city to attend Sweden's Royal Institute of Technology Masters Degree Program in Sustainable Technology. Each city is also eligible to apply for a package of Geographical Information System (GIS) software and training from a global leader in the field: ESRI. This package, valued at \$50,000, will be awarded to two of the 28 cities recognized this year.

In the closing ceremony of the Summit, 47 cities made new Commitments to action for the next two years. These Commitments include concrete performance indicators against which each city will measure its progress over the next two years. MAPES will review their progress and make a new round of awards at the 2006 Summit.

Two of the major funders of MAPES have been the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and USAID's U.S.-Asia Environmental Partnership (USAEP). The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) has also played vital roles as a MAPES partner organization. Other organizations that have collaborated in one or more of the first three MAPES include:

- United Nations bodies – UNDP, UNEP, and UN Habitat
- World Bank
- Clean Air Initiative – Asia
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- International City/County Managers Association

More Testimony to the Impact of MAPES

“When mayors I work with attend MAPES, it enhances my ability to get things done on the ground in Indonesia. For example, our experience with Mayor Amiruddin Maula (Makassar, Indonesia) followed the MAPES paradigm of a mayor catching enthusiasm at the Summit and then going back to his city to make sure that his commitment is fulfilled.”

- Jim Woodcock
World Bank, Indonesia

And from Mayor Amiruddin himself (recognized at MAPES 2003 for his commitment to improving his water supply system):

"It's surprising how much can be achieved after you have defined your targets."

The MAPES Model

The model that MAPES uses to motivate action by mayors and other local government officials has three critical elements. First, MAPES recognizes that, despite being on the front lines of environmental protection in an increasingly urbanized world, mayors are often underappreciated. MAPES addresses that problem with its focus on local government and its awards and recognition for excellence.

Second, MAPES focuses on leadership. Many conferences focus on providing civil servants from local government with technical training and capacity building. This is a necessary, *but not sufficient*, condition for improving the urban environment. The quality that is often missing in cities is bold leadership – leadership that has to start at the top. The content of MAPES programs focuses on leadership, blended with case studies presented by other mayors and mayor-to-mayor dialogue.

Finally, MAPES produces Mayors Commitments – publicly announced, recorded, and reviewed. As ADB and USAEP have attested, this is a strong motivator for action. In addition to the biennial review process, MAPES has piloted a program of Special Advisors to work with selected Mayors and assist them in implementing their action plans.

MAPES also organizes smaller scale Executive Seminars for mayors and city officials. In 2002 the topic was Integrated Water Resources Management, and in 2004 the topic will be Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Applications for Urban Management.

Looking Ahead to MAPES 2006

The MAPES partners are laying the groundwork now for the 2006 Summit, which will move from Honolulu to Melbourne, Australia. MAPES will continue to attract global leaders to participate in the Summit. Past speakers included: Albert Gore, then Vice President of the United States and Klaus Topfer, Executive Director of UNEP. MAPES welcomes collaboration with other organizations with similar goals.

For more information on MAPES, and agendas and proceedings from past Summits, see www.environmentalsummit.com or email info@environmentalsummit.com. Contact information for the MAPES Co-chairs: jeremy@jeremyharris.net, 808-429-0111 and karl.hausker@comcast.net, 202-412-5972.

**CITIES¹ RECEIVING AWARDS IN 2003 FOR MEETING COMMITMENTS MADE
AT MAPES 2001 AND MAPES EXECUTIVE SEMINAR, APRIL 2002**

Ahmedabad, India	Kolkata, India
All-India Institute for Local Self-Government	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
American Samoa Power Authority	Likiep Atoll, Marshall Islands
Bangkok, Thailand	Makassar, Indonesia
Cabanatuan, Philippines	Mandaluyong City, Philippines
Metro Cebu Water District, Philippines	Muntinlupa City, Philippines
Haiphong, Vietnam	Naga City, Philippines
Hanoi, Vietnam	Nonthaburi, Thailand
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	North Sumatera, Indonesia
Honolulu, Hawaii	Rayong, Thailand
Hyderabad, India	San Diego, California
Iloilo City, Philippines	Seoul, Republic of Korea
Indore, India	Thua Thien Hue, Vietnam
Jember, Indonesia	Vadodara, India

¹ MAPES allows provinces, municipal utilities, and organizations to make commitments.