

Preface

Climate change is a subject that has an impact on humanity and human settlements. It is an imperative topic that requires strong understanding and knowledge for better planning and preparation by cities, organisations as well as individuals.

The anthology of papers and case studies in this book were first presented at UNCRD-SIP Senior Policy Seminar on *Climate Change, Housing And Liveable Cities In Asia And Africa*, which was jointly organized by the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) and Singapore Institute of Planners (SIP). The seminar was held at Holiday Inn Atrium in Singapore during 25–27 June 2009. The papers and workshop were well received by the participants, which included key policy decision-makers, scholars from Asia (China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam), Africa (Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, Tanzania and Uganda), key representatives from the World Bank and United Nations.

Mr. Andrew Tan, the Director of Centre of Liveable Cities and CEO of National Environment Agency Singapore was our Guest-of-Honour. He mentioned that crises are inter-related. During the seminar, various questions were raised, such as “how can we design systems that take into account the complex inter-relationships between humans and their living environment” and “how to manage issues such as water, energy and food as inter-related rather than standalone challenges?” Climate Change and Eco-Planning topics were of particular interest to the fraternity of town planners and allied professionals in Singapore. The theme of the seminar and the follow-up publication of the selection of papers in this volume are very timely.

As the Immediate Past President of SIP, with versatility in the planning of various eco-cities and sustainable communities in Singapore and overseas, I observe that these papers offer a comprehensive coverage of the theme and depth of understanding the issue. This publication will increase the society’s awareness of the emerging effect of climate change which influences our lives, economy and cities. With experiences illustrated from African and Asian case studies, this book offers a preview into collaborative and design resilient strategies in the areas of housing, urban forms and quality of life.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped to make this publication and the seminar a success. Special thanks to Dr. Asfaw Kumssa and Dr. Belinda Yuen for sharing the same vision and commitment to publish these selected proceedings of the UNCRD-SIP Senior Policy Seminar.

Mrs. Seetoh Kum Chun
Immediate Past President
Singapore Institute of Planners

Climate Change and Sustainable Urban Development in
Africa and Asia

Yuen, B.; Kumssa, A. (Eds.)

2011, XVIII, 266 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-90-481-9866-5