Driving the Green Recovery and Redesign

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“Driving the Green Recovery and Redesign: Embedding Local Climate Action at the Heart of Economic Stimulus Packages – Session 1”
Daring Cities 2020

21 October 2020 @ 10:00 - 11:30 UTC+2
The COVID-19 Pandemic & Unsustainable Development

Unsustainable paths are accelerated

- Biodiversity Loss
- Climate Change
- Disasters
- Infectious Diseases

Rapid Deforestation

Rapid Urbanisation

Massive Movement of People

Mongabay News 27 Apr 2015

UN World Urbanization Prospects 2018

UNWTO Tourism Highlights 2019
Transforming unsustainable socioeconomic systems and institutions

RESPONSE
Targeted interventions to address immediate impacts

RECOVERY
Socioeconomic measures to change policy orientation

JUST TRANSITION
Transforming unsustainable socioeconomic systems and institutions

REDESIGN

Short-term  Medium-term  Long-term
Principles and Approaches for ‘Redesign’ Thinking

- Healthy planet, healthy people
- Long-term prosperity within the planetary boundaries
- Relationship between natural systems and humans
- Integrated and synergetic approaches (e.g. SDGs, Climate, Biodiversity and DRR)
- Global issues, social issues and human issues
### A Potential Application:

**Transforming Mobility in Cities for Better Health and Air Quality**

#### Responding to the crisis
- Promote **teleworking, distance learning, non-motorised** transport
- Face masks & social distancing
- Support vulnerable **communities**

#### Recovering from COVID pandemic
- Economic **stimulus** to promote e-mobility, micro-mobility etc.
- Build **sustainable transport infrastructure** and implement policies to induce **behaviour change**

#### Redesigning city transport for greater resilience
- Reconsider **urban, transport and spatial** planning
- Develop urban **transport resilience plans**
- Address the **needs of vulnerable communities**
- Enhance **coordination** across agencies

*Light Rail Transit (LRT) in Toyama City (©Toyama City)*

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Showcase response, recovery, and redesign efforts at the national level to overcome COVID-19 and environmental crises

Non-state stakeholder participation, including local governments (ICLEI, C40), businesses, civil society, youth, international organisations, and academia

Online Ministerial Meeting (3 September 2020)

Chaired by Japan’s Environment Minister Koizumi

Sessions 1 & 2: Ministers and other high-level officials participated

Session 3: non-state actors participated (including Ms. Kobie Brand of ICLEI Africa)

Led by the Ministry of the Environment Japan, supported by the UNFCCC, and managed by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
Approach to Redesign in the post-COVID era
Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)
Concept to promote carbon and resource circulation at optimal scales

Decade of Action ➔ Voluntary Local Review (VLR)

Race to Zero ➔ Zero Carbon City
Circular Economy ➔ 3R
Post Aichi Target ➔ LBSAPs

Human-Centric and Localised Digital Transformation (DX)  (IGES, 2020)
CES in Toyama City in the post-COVID era: A Compact and Connected City in Harmony with Nature

2006 LRT services begin
March 2020 South and North lines are connected

Energy and urban infrastructure
♦ LRT x DX (e.g. sensor to monitor transport flows)
♦ Urban structure for decarbonised cities (e.g. development of hub of energy management)

Life and Nature
♦ Urban development meeting the needs of the elderly (e.g. living in the downtown area & alongside public transportation)
♦ Enhancement of human health by strengthening resilience to risks such as infectious disease (e.g. park management)
♦ Enhancement of people’s motivation in life (e.g. increase of civic pride)

Ridership reduction
40% (during height of pandemic)
20% (now)

Realising CES by making cities more compact in physical space & smarter in cyber-space
Thank you for your kind attention.