URGENT – Urban Resilience and Adaptation for India and Mongolia

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Meeting summary

02.05.2022 –Discussion of WP4 Stakeholder Interactive Platform and the research framework

10.00-13.00 CET

Present at the meeting:

Altansukh Ochir, National University of Mongolia

Anton Shkaruba, Estonian University of Life Sciences

Arjan de Groot, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg

Purevtsogt Nujigar, National University of Mongolia

Recap by Anton Shkaruba on the research framework writeshop in Pondicherry in April 2022

- Anton Shkaruba shared his experience from the Pondicherry Writeshop meeting. During the meeting, he had a chance to talk to Debjani Ghosh from the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA).
  - o NIUA have a very good structure, experience and understanding regarding stakeholder interaction
  - o NIUA's expertise lies in "Action Research" – Applying their knowledge to the interface between consultancy, policy making and science.
  - o During the Pondicherry Writeshop, the group visited the NIUA institute and received an outline of what challenges there currently are and which gaps need to be filled as well as expectations on how to best support the stakeholders
  - o NIUA already has an extensive list of stakeholders in place that could be valuable for the URGENT project
- Regarding Mongolia, it is now important to determine how to proceed. On the one hand it will be easier in the sense that it is a smaller scope in terms of stakeholders and population, but more difficult perhaps since there is no central institute (like NIUA) that focuses on these interactions between science, policy and consultancy
  - o There is UPRI (Ulaanbaatar Planning and Research Institute) in Mongolia. Perhaps collaborating with them would be a great opportunity.

Stakeholder interactive platform

- PLATFORM DESIGN
  - o SUNRAISE project can serve as an example of what we need from our platform.
  - o SUNRAISE had a founding event with most stakeholders and organised stakeholder workshops from time to time. During the foundation event they discussed the part of cooperation and the next collaborative activities.
  - o Potential for URGENT to follow suit although we first need to fill the platform with relevant material
  - o Arjan suggested to change the design: Instead of having the different sections appear as a drop-down from the main page, clicking the "Stakeholder Platform" button should instead take the visitor to a general OVERVIEW PAGE
    - ▪ The OVERVIEW PAGE would show the description/mission statement and logos

- On the OVERVIEW PAGE the buttons would be embedded on the site or would be on a menu on the left-hand side and would lead to the different sections
  - Knowledge products, IND stakeholder, MON stakeholders, Facebook Platform
  - For each stakeholder that would want it, there should be a subpage with their logo, description and link to materials / link to internship possibilities and inquiries

Preparation of the interim report

- Regarding the MoU, Altansukh Ochir suggested to create a google form which which URGENT partners (and later unaffiliated stakeholders) can fill out with their interest to join and their agreement to participate.
- The description of the Stakeholder Platform as well as objective and mission statement needs to be written soon.
- URGENT Partners need to prepare and send knowledge materials to be uploaded to the website

1. **UNTIL 09.05.2022:** Arjan de Groot prepares the MoU google form in English which will then be translated into Mongolian. The MoU will contain a description of the platform, its objective, examples of activities and a statement of agreement and cooperation that will be signed by each Urgent partner to make sure everyone is understanding and willing to participate.
2. **UNTIL 09.05.2022:** Arjan de Groot will prepare a description for the platform based on the example of the SUNRAISE project which will include the goal, proposed activities, legal information and logos. One important aspect of the stakeholder platform is to also involve stakeholders in the curriculum development (and other URGENT activities) in order to allow these stakeholder to impart their knowledge and to perhaps also host student internships.
3. **UNTIL 31.05.2022:** Anton Shkaruba will contact Kalev Sepp to inquire about the state of the E-Science module that he is working on. After this, Anton will contact all URGENT partners and ask them to prepare and send out materials to be uploaded to the website. These materials can include but are not limited to:
   a. E-Science products (Links to Resources and Research Databases), E-Learning Modules, MOOCs, Seminar outputs, Publications, Online Courses that they might offer
4. **UNTIL MID MAY:** Altansukh Ochir will discuss the proposed platform design changes with the website manager and, if acceptable, will implement these changes within the next week.
5. **JUNE ONWARDS:** Once materials are online and the website is "filled", outreach to non-URGENT stakeholders can begin and they can be invited to join the website.
- Getting the website ready and presentable is the highest priority at this point

Follow-ups related to the decisions taken on the Pondicherry writeshop

- Anton Shkaruba explained the outcomes of the Pondicherry writeshop and the necessary next steps for the Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and the Mongolian partners.
- EU Partners can serve as guiding co-supervisors for the proposed topics and theses.
- URGENT budget can be used for visits with the purpose of getting to know each other (student and institutions) and develop a partnership from there

URGENT – Urban Resilience and Adaptation
for India and Mongolia

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

- Professor Yoshi will set up a matchmaking platform within May, allowing for EU and INDIAN/MONGOLIAN partners to cooperate on the listed topics.
- MLU will specify which topics/issues they could cover and for which they have expertise for. These topics could then be guided and supervised by MLU
- MLU will also check if there are other topics of interest to the URGENT activities that could be added to the list. MLU will also check if there is German-based funding available for some of these topics.
- MLU will also include these topics on their own list of possible PhD/MSc topics from which MLU students can choose from
- Mongolia now needs to do the same exercise as India – identify challenges and gaps and investigate how EU partners could help address them. What are the research gaps regarding urban research and urban practice on a national level.
- We have a surplus of travel budget, so it would be good to use it asap.