



**REPORTING FORMAT FOR PARTNERS**

**Networking – Side – Training events**

**City Changer Room – Urban Library – Agora – One UN events**

**Deadline: 30 April 2014**

**Please send via email:** [wuf@unhabitat.org](mailto:wuf@unhabitat.org)

**Reporting Format for Partners**  
(Networking Events, Side Events, Training Events, City Changer Room, One UN Room, Urban Library, and Agora Room)

<b>Name of Reporter:</b>	Joris van Etten
Event title/number:	<b>Linking Cities to Financing: Bridging the gap between planning and implementation of urban infrastructure investments</b>
Date:	Friday 11 April
Venue:	City Changer room
Time:	14:45 – 15:45
Name of Organizing Institution(s):	Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA)
Country/City where Organizing Institution(s) is/are based:	Manila, Philippines
Approximate number of participants:	30

**Summary of the Event (max: 300 words):**

To ensure the development of green, inclusive and competitive cities, local governments make plans and develop strategies. Implementation of these plans and strategies includes investing in improvement of urban infrastructure and urban services. For these investments, cities often depend on external financing including participation from the private sector.

Unfortunately, many city and municipal governments are often not sufficiently equipped to undertake the task of translating their plans and strategies into projects which can attract financing.

Participants to this session had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with experiences and materials as developed by Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA) to assist cities and municipalities to move from strategies to securing financing for their urban infrastructure investments.

After a brief introduction, participants worked on a case-study on identifying project components for a Bus-Rapid Transit system and identified how these various project components could be financed. In addition the participants shared with each other what they see are the key challenges in securing the financing identified.

Finally a representative of the Government of Indonesia clarified the importance of good project preparation and the need for a project development facility which would help cities to prepare bankable and better projects.





## Summary of the Discussion (max: total 500 words):

### 1. Outline of the discussion/debates

The challenges of cities to prioritize their infrastructure projects and to subsequently get these projects financed, is in Asia among others addressed through Cities Development Initiative for Asia. CDIA is an international partnership initiative, established in 2007, by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of Germany, with additional core funding support from the governments of Austria, Sweden, Switzerland and the Shanghai Municipal Government. The Initiative provides assistance to medium-sized Asian cities to bridge the gap between their development plans and the implementation of their infrastructure investments.

Participants discussed options for financing an urban transport improvement project. Many creative ideas for breaking down the project into bankable project components were shared. Finally participants listened to how in Indonesia CDIA is working closely with central government agencies to assist local governments with their urban infrastructure financing.

### 2. Major emerging issues and position documents/declarations towards:

- *Habitat III*

Cities are where the battle for sustainable development will be won or lost. To ensure cities have the financial, administrative and human capacities to achieve sustainable development will be key.

- *POST2015*

A post-2015 goal which would highlight the role of cities would provide incentives to establish additional financing mechanisms relevant for cities.

- *A New Urban Agenda*

It was felt that a facility such as Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA) which is assisting Asian medium sized cities to link their infrastructure projects to financing would also be relevant for Africa and Latin America.

### 3. Recommendations made during the discussion

Resource mobilization is key to ensure sustainable infrastructure investments. Creative mechanism where private sector financing is combined with national, local and international government funding are required to address the huge deficit in in financing low-carbon and climate-resilient infrastructure.

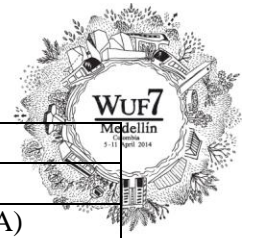
### 4. Building partnerships, network and synergies with UN-Habitat

Government of Indonesia is keen to continue its close partnership with Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA) to assist cities in prioritizing infrastructure projects, making them bankable and link them to financing.

Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA) is keen to extend its MoU with UN-HABITAT to work together on the Cities and Climate Change Initiative.

## Detail Information of Speakers/Presenters/Moderators:





Full name (Mr/Ms):	Joris van Etten
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