

SymbioCity – a holistic and inclusive approach to sustainable urban development

2021-2022

Indonesia and Vietnam

The programme is based on SymbioCity which is both an approach and a methodology for sustainable and inclusive urban development.

It seeks to improve living standards, safety, comfort and quality of life for all by including stakeholders and citizens in the urban development process. It combines support to planning, development and management of urban areas.

The below areas are central aspects of SymbioCity:

- Equitable community participation and multi-stakeholder collaboration
- Gender mainstreaming
- Leadership for sustainable development
- Shared visions and strategies for all stakeholders
- Holistic and integrated urban planning
- Innovative solutions to urban challenges
- Utilizing synergies between urban systems
- Analysis of impacts and optimization of outcomes
- Implementation and management of urban change

The programme will address urban challenges such as waste, mobility/transport systems, energy, water and sewage, cultural heritage and public space. There will also be a number of theoretical modules addressing such issues as governance, local democracy, gender equality, combatting poverty, communication and participation, and the environment and climate change.

For more information about SymbioCity, please visit www.symbiocity.org

Training goals

The overall goal of the training is to afford local authorities the opportunity to develop and manage urban areas in a sustainable and inclusive manner by using SymbioCity. The training shall result in improvements in health, safety and quality of life for people in urban areas.



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Upon completion of the training, the participants will:

- understand the importance of good governance in establishing equitable local development;
- be able to manage urban development in a way that is inclusive, holistic and a matter for all citizens;
- understand integrated and holistic planning so as to be able to identify synergies between urban systems;
- understand how to manage change through multi-stakeholder and multi-level collaboration;
- have gained an increased understanding of a variety of creative solutions to urban challenges;
- be able to use the SymbioCity approach to improve the process and the results of urban change projects.

Target groups and applicant criteria

Decision-makers and public officials from local authorities, preferably those working in departments dealing with varying types of urban development.

Participants will apply and be accepted as teams of two - three people from each town/city. The applying team should consist of professionals, preferably from different departments or sections that are involved in the development of the local urban environment. They should as such form a critical mass capable of implementing lessons and experiences acquired through the training programme.

We welcome teams that are mixed in terms of gender and age. Participants must be nominated by their organisation. Course participants may not be accompanied by family members.



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How?

During the course of the training, the group of participants from the same municipality are expected to work with an identified real problem/challenge that their city is facing. The problem/challenge should be of practical relevance for the local urban environment of the city and could include e.g.: waste, mobility/transport systems, energy, water and sanitation, cultural heritage or public space or areas such as; local democracy, gender mainstreaming, poverty reduction, communication and participation, environment and climate change.

The training will be in the form of four skills training workshops led by international ITP trainers where the participants will either meet in one of the participating countries or on-line, depending on existing COVID-19 limitations. One of the training workshops will a two week long training in Sweden. In between the workshops, the teams are expected to work with their change project.

With support of the international ITP trainers as well as a National SymbioCity Facilitator, the participants will develop change projects identifying concrete solutions to the chosen problem/challenge using the SymbioCity approach. Working with these specific challenges/problems during the training should be endorsed by the respective local governments. The development and implementation of the projects will be supported but not financed by the ICLD.

Expectations of Participants

- Must be able to understand and communicate well in English.
- Must have approval to participate in all aspects of the 18-month programme from your local authority.

ICLD will cover the following costs during the programme:

- Participants' fees and training materials.
- All international travel (excluding local travel to the international airport).
- Food and lodging during all workshops (single room accommodation).
- Insurance for participants when travelling outside your home country in connection with the programme.

ICLD will not cover the following costs:

- Travelling costs within your home country
- Visa costs
- Medical and dental examinations
- Other personal expenses
- No per diem during training outside of Sweden

Visas

Visas are required for travel to and participation in some workshops. Participants will be referred to the correct embassy to apply for a visa, but visa applications must be personally submitted by the participants themselves. Cost for visa is not covered by the ICLD.

How to apply

Applications will be done on invitation only. Invited cities will receive link to application form.

Contact details

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