Inclusivity in ASEAN from the UN reports
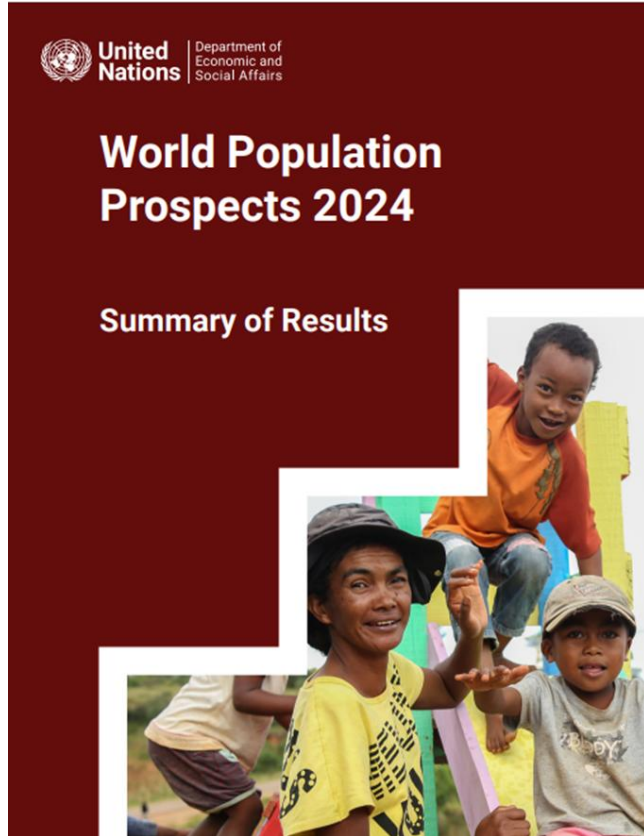
MURATA Shigeo

Head

United Nations Centre for Regional Development(UNCRD)

- **The world's population is likely to peak within the current century.**

- **Declining birth rate**

- **Progression of aging.**

The large youth population and an aging society coexist in an unprecedented manner.

Population Growth and Urban Development

- As per UN, 55% of the world's population currently lives in urban areas, and this figure is projected to rise to 68% by 2050.

- This means approximately 2.5 billion people will be added to urban populations by the middle of the century.

- Almost 90% of the population increase will take place in Asia and Africa.

Most Populous Cities in the World

City	Population
Tokyo, JAPAN	37 million
Delhi, INDIA	33 million
Shanghai, CHINA	30 million
Dhaka, BANGLADESH	24 million
Sao Paulo, BRAZIL	23 million
Cairo, EGYPT	23 million
Mexico City, MEXICO	22 million
Beijing, CHINA	22 million
Mumbai, INDIA	22 million

East and North-East Asia
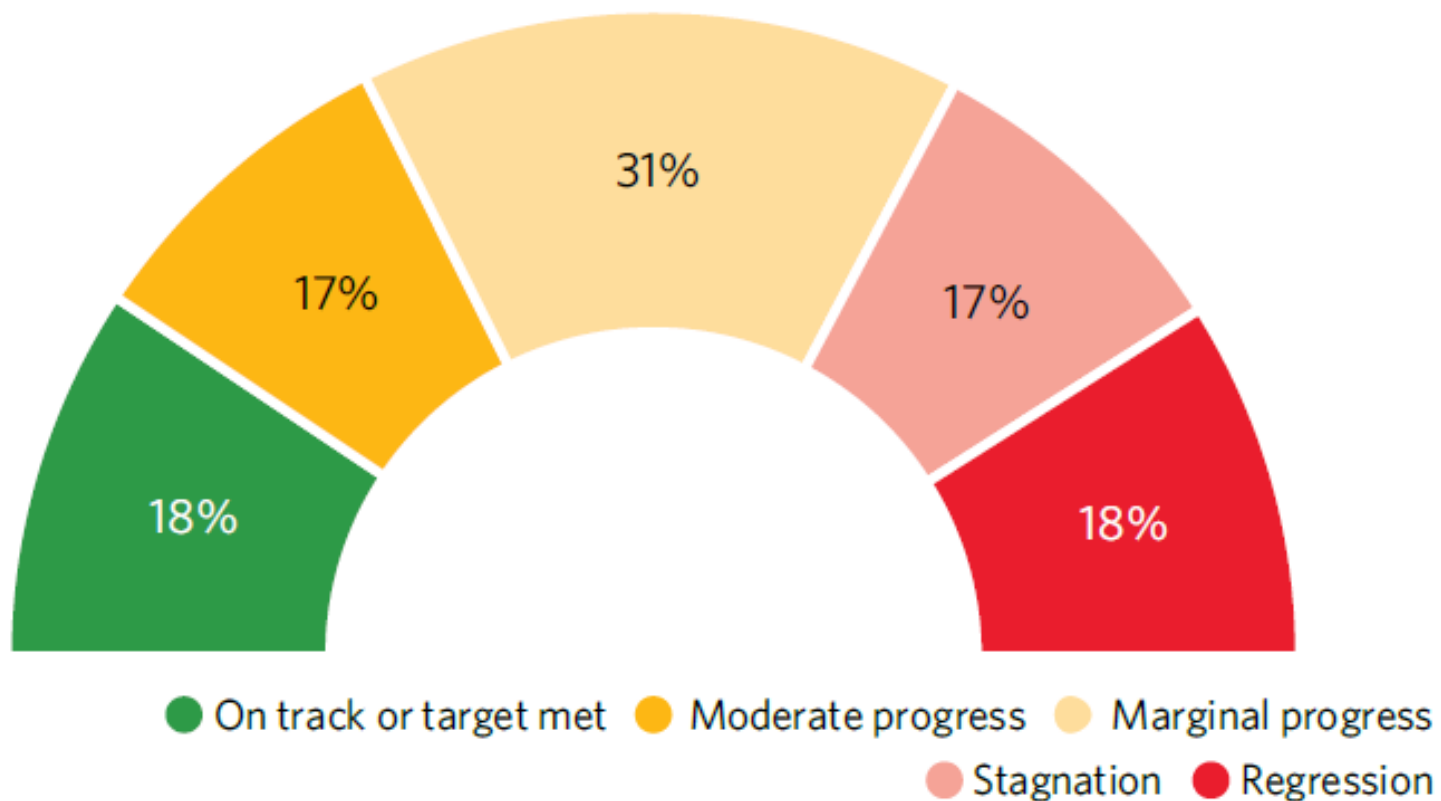Africa
South and South-West Asia
Others

Urbanization in Asia and Africa

- By 2030, the world is projected to have 43 megacities with more than 10 million inhabitants, most of them in developing regions.

- Almost 90 % of urban expansion in the next decades will take place in the developing countries.

- **By 2050, the urban population in Asia is expected to grow by 50% - an additional 1.2 billion people.**

- However, some of the fastest-growing urban agglomerations are cities with fewer than 1 million inhabitants, many of them located in Asia and Africa.

Overall Progress on the SDGs (2015-2025)

Source: United Nations, The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2025

Summit of the Future

- Adopted a "Pact for the Future", including its Annexes "Global Digital Compact".

- Emphasizes the importance of scientific and technological innovation in solving global challenges, advocating for reduced disparities and increased investment in SDG-related research.

- Digitalization and smart technologies, in particular, are key to building safer, more resilient, and sustainable cities.

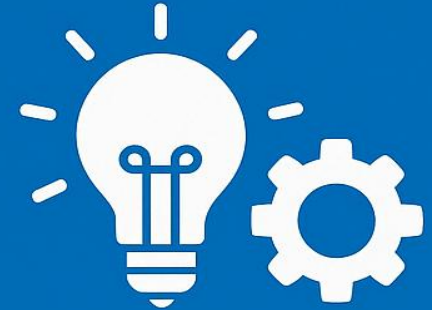# International Training Workshop on Smart Cities

1 sharing and discussion of policies and strategies for SC promotion

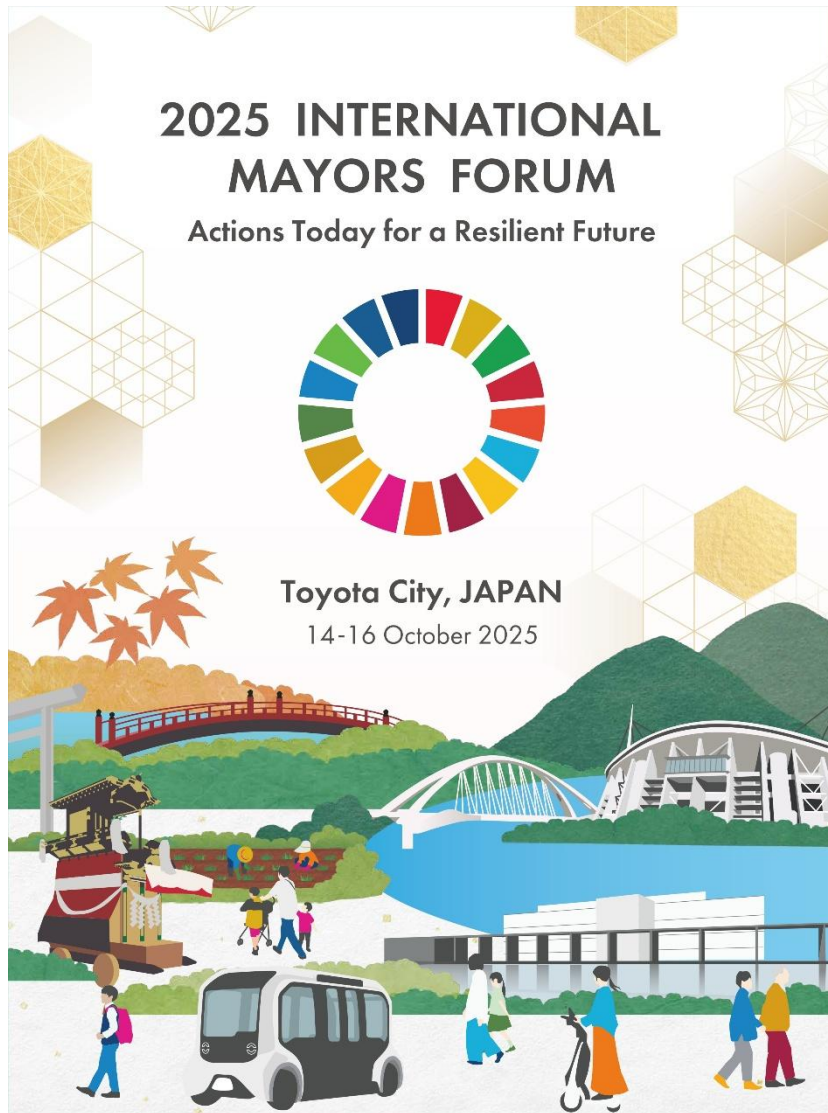**2** promote city-to-city cooperation and public-private partnerships

3 promote the introduction of advanced technologies and solutions and study the feasibility of implementation

2025 International Mayors Forum

2025 International Mayors Forum
(14-16 October 2025, Toyota City, Japan)

Organized by UN DESA with support from UNCRD and UNOSD, together with UN-Habitat and the City of Toyota, the forum promotes knowledge sharing, partnerships, and local actions for resilient, inclusive, and sustainable cities toward 2030.

It brought together 289 participants from 68 cities in 38 countries and adopted the Toyota Action Plan for Partnerships as its output.

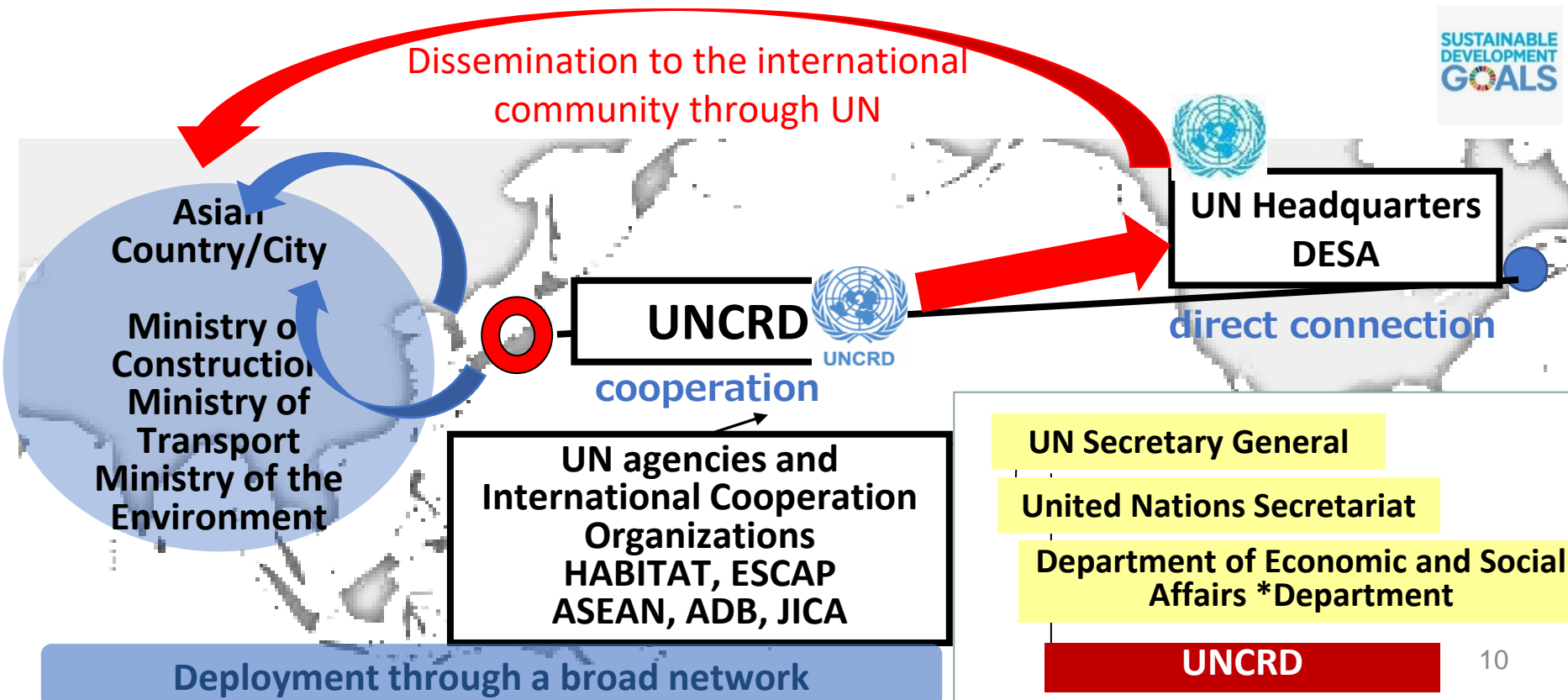UN Under-Secretary-General Mr. Li delivering Welcome Remarks

Thank you!

Contact at

muratas@uncrd.or.jp

Introduction to UNCRD

* The United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), under DSDG/UNDESA, was established in 1971 in Nagoya, Japan.

* The only agency within the United Nations dedicated to supporting sustainable regional development in developing countries;

Dissemination to the international community through UN

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Asian Country/City

Ministry of Construction
Ministry of Transport
Ministry of the Environment

UNCRD

UNCRD

cooperation

UN Headquarters
DESA

direct connection

UN agencies and International Cooperation Organizations
HABITAT, ESCAP
ASEAN, ADB, JICA

UN Secretary General

United Nations Secretariat

Department of Economic and Social Affairs *Department

UNCRD

Deployment through a broad network

10

Global Sustainable Development Report presents

The selected initiatives address 6 transitions, 1 cross-cutting topic, and 5 enablers that will be key to driving progress on SDGs

	UN Collective action					
Transitions	Energy Compacts	Biodiversity & Nature*	Transforming Education	Social protection & jobs	Food systems	Digital Public Infrastructure
Cross-cutting	Violence against women					
Enablers	SDG Stimulus					
	Trade					
	SDG localization					
	Public sector capabilities*					
	Data System					

Source: United Nations