

SPREADING AROUND THE WORD OF CITYWIDE UPGRADING

ACHR continues to document the ongoing ACCA and citywide upgrading process in Asia through a variety of reports, articles, books, publications, posters, video films and other documents which describe different aspects of the citywide and community-driven slum upgrading movement that has taken off in Asia - some with and some without support from the ACCA Program. Most of these documents can be downloaded from the ACHR website (www.achr.net). For copies of the video films and printed books and publications, please contact ACHR.

MEETING REPORTS: Reports have been prepared which document all 15 of the ACCA committee meetings (which have been held in 13 different cities) and other ACCA-related gatherings held so far. These reports summarize the key points, discussions and agreements and present detailed information about the projects already underway and the new projects being proposed.

FIELD VISIT REPORTS: Illustrated reports have also been prepared which provide detailed accounts of the exposure visits to community-driven, citywide upgrading projects that are in process in several countries and cities: Bharatpur, Nepal (Feb 2009), Iloilo, Philippines (March 2009), Chantaburi, Thailand (April 2009), Seoul, Korea (June 2009), Cambodia (September 2010), Lao PDR (November 2011), Bicol, Philippines (March 2012), Indonesia (July 2012) and Bangladesh (November 2012).

ASSESSMENT TRIP REPORTS: Reports have also been prepared with detailed accounts of the discussions, findings, ideas and suggestions that came out of the six joint ACCA "peer assessment" trips organized so far to six countries: Philippines (Jan 2010), Vietnam (April 2010), Mongolia (July 2010), Cambodia (September 2010), Nepal (November 2010) and Sri Lanka (April 2011).

ACCA PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORTS / POSTERS: Published reports include: an ACCA 6-Monthly Progress Report (May 2009); an information brochure about ACCA with profiles of 6 ACCA cities (June 2009); ACCA First-Year Progress Report - "64 Cities" (December 2009); ACCA Second-Year Progress Report - "107 Cities" (December 2010); ACCA Calendars for 2010 and 2011; E-News Bulletins and Updates; Poster sets prepared for exhibitions in various international forums and meetings.

ACADEMIC ARTICLES ON ACCA: The October 2012 issue of "Environment & Urbanization" (the journal of the UK-based International Institute for Environment and Development - IIED), under the theme "Addressing poverty and inequality - new forms of urban governance in Asia" includes seven in-depth articles on different aspects of the ACCA Program: ACCA's overall concepts and performance, community finance, community networks, community architects, peer assessment, change-making by poor people, and "pathways to freedom." These articles were written by the people who are actually involved in these citywide upgrading processes, in collaboration with our friends Diana Mitlin and David Satterthwaite at IIED.

COMMUNITY ARCHITECTS: The Asia-wide Community Architects Network (CAN), which links groups of community architects and community builders in 16 countries, has produced a series of publications and handbooks which describe various aspects of a new kind of physical planning process in which the professionals are the facilitators and communities themselves are the designers and builders. "Design with People" and "Let people be the solution" are books which describe the work of community architects in Asia, including community and citywide mapping, settlement upgrading, comprehensive site planning, community builders training, engaging with academic institutions and sharing knowledge. CAN has also produced handbooks on community mapping and comprehensive site planning. For copies of these publications or more information, please contact ACHR or CAN's regional coordinator Tee at: architect_once@hotmail.com

VIDEO FILMS: ACHR has put together two DVD compilations of video films that have been produced by groups around Asia, with support from the Rockefeller Foundation and ACCA (13 films in the first set, and 20 films in the second set). Most of these films document citywide slum upgrading projects that are being implemented by poor communities, with support from ACCA. "The way to end slums" is another 20-minute film that documents the experiences of ACCA-supported citywide upgrading in three cities (Bharatpur, Vinh and Bangkok), and was produced by Brenda Kelly and Trish Connolly of Uncommon Media, a London-based film company with a long experience producing documentaries on social issues with the BBC. This lively short film can now be watched on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fnFSR3phLFO>

SEMINAR / EXHIBITIONS: ACHR brought the message of citywide and people-driven slum upgrading to the World Urban Forum in Naples, Italy, in September 2012, where we organized a seminar on "Scaling up citywide and community driven slum upgrading" and put up an exhibition of posters which showcased many of the ACCA-supported housing and settlement upgrading projects. A full transcript of the seminar has been printed and can be downloaded from the ACHR website. In January 2012, two ACCA-supported community upgrading projects in Bangkok and Metro Manila were featured in an exhibition called "Design with the Other 90%" at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Design in New York City. After its launch at the United Nations headquarters, the exhibition is now traveling to cities around the USA.

