



PASCAL International  
observatory



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUTURES: FROM KNOWLEDGE TO PRACTICE, 12 - 13  
November 2024 | The Heritage Hotel Manila, Pasay City, Philippines**

**PASCAL Asia - MANILA CALL to ACTION 2024**

Following the highly successful 18<sup>th</sup> PASCAL Observatory in tandem with the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference in Urban and Regional Planning hosted by the University of the Philippines Diliman, School of Urban and Regional Planning, we the delegates of the conference call on PASCAL Asia to take the following actions

1/ Extend the reach of the PASCAL Asia centre at UP Diliman and its associate centres at the University of Khula, Bangladesh, Kerela Institute for Municipal Government and University of Duhok, Iraq to cities, municipalities and universities throughout the Asian continent in pursuit of its core objective of creating better places through knowledge exchange and capacity strengthening in the fields of place management, social capital and learning city development

2/ Collaborate in these fields with other key actors in the continent, and where appropriate enter into Memoranda of Understanding including:

- The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Lifelong Learning Hub's newly established Regional Centre in South-East Asia co-ordinated from India
- The Asia-Europe Foundation (Singapore)
- ASEAN Education (Education, Indonesia)
- DVV International (the Institute for International Cooperation of the Deutscher Volkshochschul-Verband e.V. (DVV), the German Adult Education Association) Regional Office for South and South-east Asia (Lao PDR)
- Asia Development Bank (Philippines)
- CityNet (Republic of Korea)
- UNESCO Chair in Community-Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education (India/Canada)
- Participatory Research in Asia (India)
- UNESCO Institute in Lifelong Learning

3/ Establish national networks of learning cities in Asia, beginning in the Philippines with invitations to the mayors of Makati City and Bago City as foundation members.

- Thereafter to work with these cities through knowledge exchanges with other municipalities and higher education institutions within the PASCAL Learning Cities Network, promoting city to city, city to HEI and HEI to city dialogues

- And to support cities in their aspirations to become members of other international learning city networks, notably the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities, and eventually to achieve the UNESCO Learning City Award

4/ Offer concrete tools for evaluation of place-based work to both cities and universities, drawing on previous research and development within PASCAL and its associated projects, including:

- The benchmarking tools of PASCAL's University Regional Engagement project (PASCAL Australasia and PASCAL Europe)
- The survey and focus group approaches of the Centre for Sustainable Healthy Learning Cities and Neighbourhoods (SHLC) that investigate the contribution of health and learning to sustainable neighbours (PASCAL Asia (SHLC Philippines))
- Tools that map the contribution of various stakeholders to learning city development from the Indicators and Lilara projects (PASCAL Europe)
- Tools developed with the Urban Big Data Centre that actualise some of the UNESCO Indicators of Learning Cities (PASCAL Europe)
- Methods to monitor nature-based interventions for school pupils (PASCAL Americas)

5/ Offer training programmes drawing on existing resources within the PASCAL Network, including micro-credentials in Local Economic Development from the University of Johannesburg, PASCAL Africa Centre

6/ Focus not only on urban matters, but also emphasise in research and development, and capacity strengthening, challenges within rural areas, including the importance of support agricultural education, biodiversity issues and disaster management, *inter alia*, offering connections to PASCAL work in its learning city networks that focus on urban/rural linkages and EcCoWell. Such work would highlight both the importance of informal learning, the changing of mindsets and the role of technology in meeting global challenges in rural communities, and highlight success stories and learning from failures through the publication of PASCAL Briefing Papers

7/ Facilitate communities and municipalities in conceptualising actionable projects from the ground

On behalf of all delegates

Dr. Mario de los Reyes, Director, PASCAL Asia

Prof. Dina Magnaye, Director of UP SURP

Ass. Prof. Sheila Napalang, Deputy Director PASCAL Asia

Prof. Marius Venter, Director of PASCAL Africa

Dr. Rob Mark, PASCAL Learning Cities Co-ordinator

Prof. Emeritus Michael Osborne, Chair of PASCAL Executive Steering Group