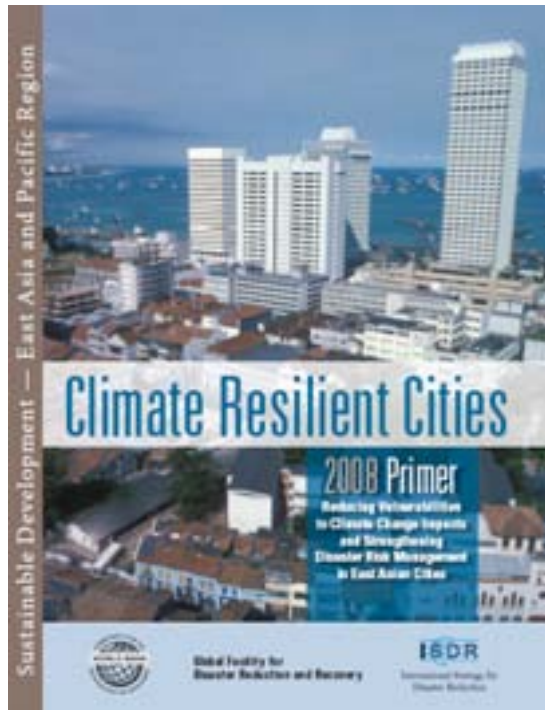


# Green Cities Launch Event : A Primer on Climate Change Impacts and Disaster Risk Management in Urban Areas in East Asia



Session 5 – Guidance from the Primer:  
Understanding the Local Impact of Climate  
Change and Disasters

**Singapore** – Creating A City's  
Information Base

Prof. Ravi Sinha, World Bank Consultant

14 July 2008, Pattaya



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# Key Features

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- Information Base is a foundation for stakeholder consultation, community engagement, policy making and planning
- Information Base requires information that are often available within different departments of the government – may be uncoordinated
- Singapore has used Information Base for prioritization of plans, advocacy and to also develop monitoring mechanisms
- Information Base has assisted Singapore to identify various feasible Disaster Risk Management & Climate Change programs



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# Key Features

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- Information Base has helped Singapore to understand itself in the context of urban development, disaster risk management and climate change
- Singapore has compiled Information Base with participation of relevant stakeholders, including
  - Local government
  - Private sector
  - Civil society
- City Information Base provides information through maps, charts and other planning products



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# Key Features

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- Singapore recognized that it needed to understand itself adequately without waiting to develop a very comprehensive Information Base
- The city used detail information available about its demography, economy, natural hazards, etc.
- The city used available information for man-made hazards and climate change impacts
- When local information was not available, Singapore used global projections for climate change impacts



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# Singapore Approach

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- Singapore has coupled its disaster risk management and climate change policies with its developmental agenda
- Singapore has adopted a *no-regrets* approach focusing on sustainable development
- DRM & CC policies are important pillars for its sustainable development agenda
- Singapore's CC programs have clear objectives:
  - Cleaner environment,
  - Energy efficient appliances,
  - Energy conserving buildings, etc.



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# Singapore Approach

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- Singapore is doing all that the Primer has advocated:
  - Involve all stakeholders
  - Understand yourself
  - Evaluate (or otherwise know) your risks
  - Integrate DRM & CC programs with sustainable development
  - Implement mitigation and adaptation programs
  - Focus on short-, medium- and long-term programs
  - Provide evaluation mechanism (maybe target based) for periodic assessment and modifications to the program



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# Singapore – Technical Expertise

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- Singapore is working closely with technical experts and R&D organizations (both academia as well as from private sector)
- Technical experts are involved at the highest policy-making levels
- Targeted R&D programs are being developed to help evaluate potential consequences of climate change based on local models
  - These will be used to further refine on-going programs



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# Lessons from Singapore

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- Climate change programs require strong political commitments
- Programs can be localized – they can initially target only specific sectors such as clear air, energy efficient appliances, etc.
- Many programs provide *no-regrets* opportunities and can be adopted in first phase
- Programs should be mainstreamed so that the responsibilities and ownership is spread across a wide cross-section of stakeholders within and outside the government



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**Thank You**



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# Conclusion

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