

# Green Growth in South East Asia: Malaysia and the Philippines between operational principles and urban challenges

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# Outline

Introductory Elements

International sustainability strategies

Green growth and Urban Centers in South East Asia

The Importance of Utilities

GREENUT: presentation of the project

Malaysian Case

Philippines Case

Concluding remarks

# International sustainability strategies pointing to an efficient use of strategic resources?

## Energy

International Climate Change negotiations (UNFCCC) agreements (Kyoto, COP 21) and regional schemes (carbon trade) have led to increasing stock control and storage of CO<sub>2</sub>, energy management, use of greater share of renewable energies and/or lower carbon footprint.

▶ These instruments have been increasingly disseminated and championed in the Global South: development strategies increasingly combine enhanced energy requirements with mitigation strategies.

## Water

The Johannesburg Summit in 2002, acknowledging the significant imbalances in access to water and sanitation services, set for 2015 the target of halving the current number of people without access to water and sanitation (2.4 billion). In Europe and France, the Water Framework Directive (Dir. 2000/60/EC), overhauled the European Water Policy, setting up the ground for a “positive ecological status” of water bodies by 2015. River Basin Management a priority of this orientation.

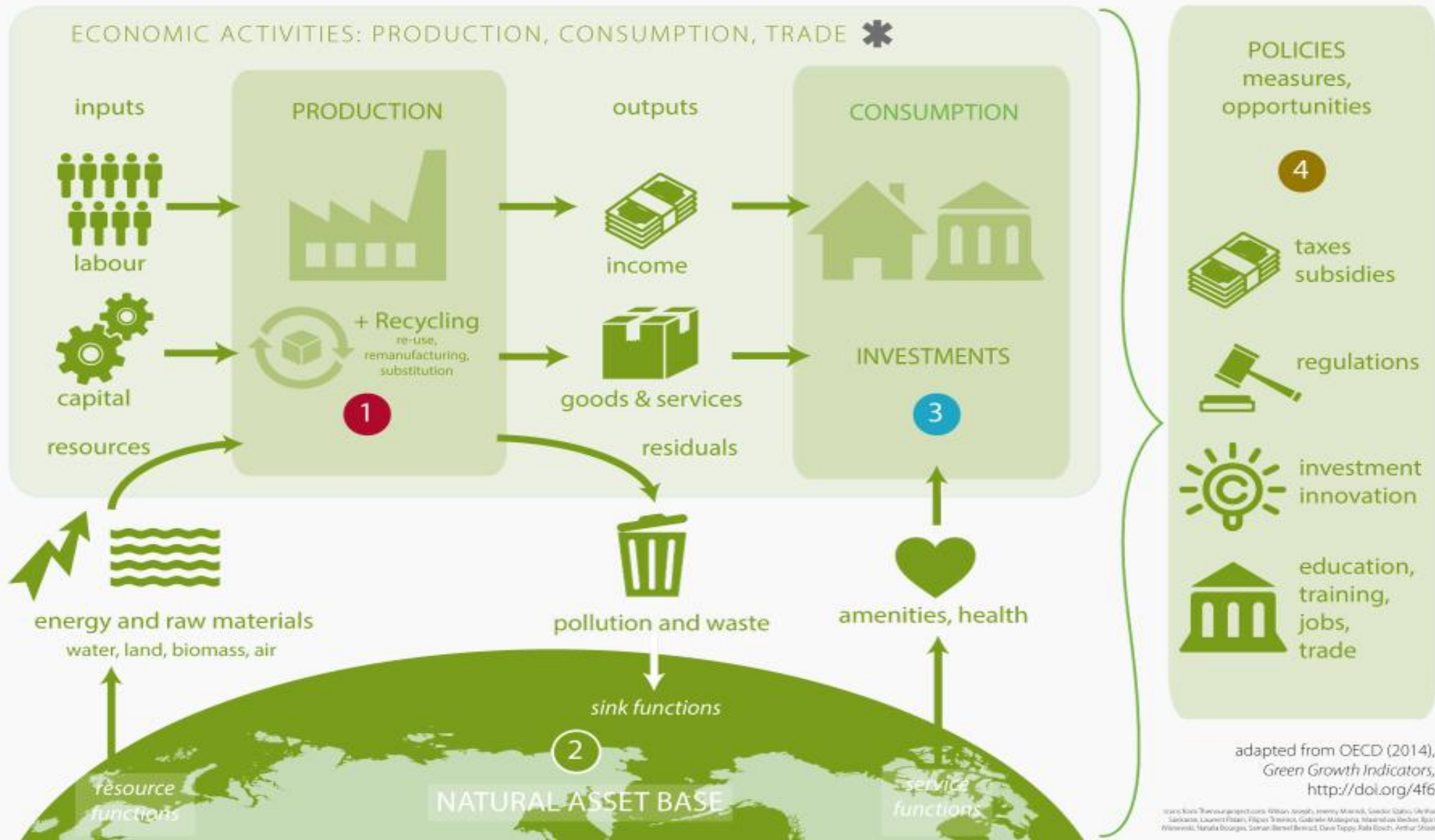
▶ In ASEAN countries, the ASCC Blueprint (2009-2015) promotes regional cooperation on integrated water resources management (IWRM performance indicators, Knowledge sharing and exchange)

# The growing importance of urban centers and local contexts as key sustainability enforcers

**Multi-level dimension of environmental problems, but local development focus** (consultation, assessment, design, implementation ...) have been increasingly favored by governments, firms and social actors as key drivers of change.

- in the field of energy: renewable and decentralized energy solutions (wind, solar energy) but also green building codes and new energy efficient developments
- in the field of water: for example, new approaches resorting to territorial coordination instruments: development and implementation of development plans and water management (IRWM).
- in the field of energy-water interactions: local implementation of actions will require a better general knowledge of externalities identified or medium to long term. The role of hydropower must also be mentioned as it is both the energy policy choices, policy of water, and orientations in terms of spatial planning.

GREEN GROWTH INDICATORS FRAMEWORK





# Sustainability: environnement and cities

## **The rise of environmental issues: centers vs. Periphery**

The persistence of heavy asymmetries at the territorial scale

Metropoleis in the making vs 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> rank cities

## **The agenda setting of sustainability issues by a double-helix movement favorable to larger cities.**

The organized contestation of large infrastructural projects (Conga, Sarawak, Belo Monte)

Agenda setting of efficiency and sustainability issues in urban territories (smart grids, green quarters)

## **The bargaining of green growth strategies or a sustainable strategy for metropolitan development.**

Big announcements

Incremental policies and change?

# The necessity to address the constraints of the *material city* (Rutherford 2008, Lorrain 2015)

A focus on the material city and how urban leaders have devised mechanisms of ordinary government for the resolution of practical and essential problems: providing electricity, drinking water, sanitation, transportation.

3 methodological assumptions:

**Infrastructure networks help to structure cities and function as mechanisms of cohesion:** urban governance is also provided by networks of actors that cut across territorial and institutional boundaries

**Megacities become more governable if there is a legitimate authority capable of making choices** –although reluctance to formulate choices is also a way of governing (Le Galès 2008)

**Anarchic urbanisation has its roots in systems of land ownership, in inadequate urban planning and in the practices of developers and local actors:** hence essential to move from a traditional urban studies approach towards a political economic understanding of these interactions in terms of ownership, organizational dynamics and cronism

# The importance of utilities

The **strategic role of utilities** for development strategies: from city metabolism to political legitimization strategies

The practice of **CITYzenship**: utility provision (affordability, accessibility and reliability) as city rights and a vital frontier of urban governance.

The **growing importance of utility management and governance in the fight against climate change**: from sustainable cities to extended metropolitan entities cutting across administrative boundaries and threatening complex eco-systemic balances

A marginal contribution of energy and water utilities within cities to Low Carbon Society goals?



# Development and infrastructural considerations

## **The notion of development: from normative category instrumental category**

central question: the race to develop ... but what kind of development and in which terms ... and for whom?

The liberalization of national economies and investment flows as an *efficient condition* for an integration to the world economy?

## **The role of the state as enabler of development: from planning to facilitation the development**

The transformation of traditional planning missions The institutional reorganization of development: the case of environmental issues and governance of these, the role of strategic planning agencies under national design

The Financing of Development: global investments plans, which contributed to the acceptance of market forces and competition principles

# Development and infrastructural considerations 2 -Effects

## **The holy trinity of growth: energy, transport and real estate**

The question of energy: access, efficiency and transformation of the energy mix from renewable

Transportation / logistics: production lines vs territorial integration?

Real estate: the weight of unbridled urban expansion on the design of urban services (utilities)

## **A new developmentalist matrix?**

Urban centers as central pieces of development programs

Economic corridors design and implementation

The political problem of an ex ante integration of environmental and social considerations (EIAs, SIAs)

## **The governance of development programs in the face of difficult implementations**

Sectoral regulation within development programs: how to steer and regulate?

Development acceleration and its implementation as a locus for long standing social issues.

Competing frameworks of analysis of environmental issues: accumulation principles, social and territorial needs, ecosystemic considerations.

# The choice of a region: South East Asian specificities?

## ■ South East Asia at the forefront of Climate Change

Among cities in the Global South, SEAsian cities showcase a unique form of development: rapid and continuous urbanization with insufficient urban infrastructure, accompanied by the fast economic growth driven by Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

Numerous challenges, including rapidly increasing in carbon emissions and energy consumption,

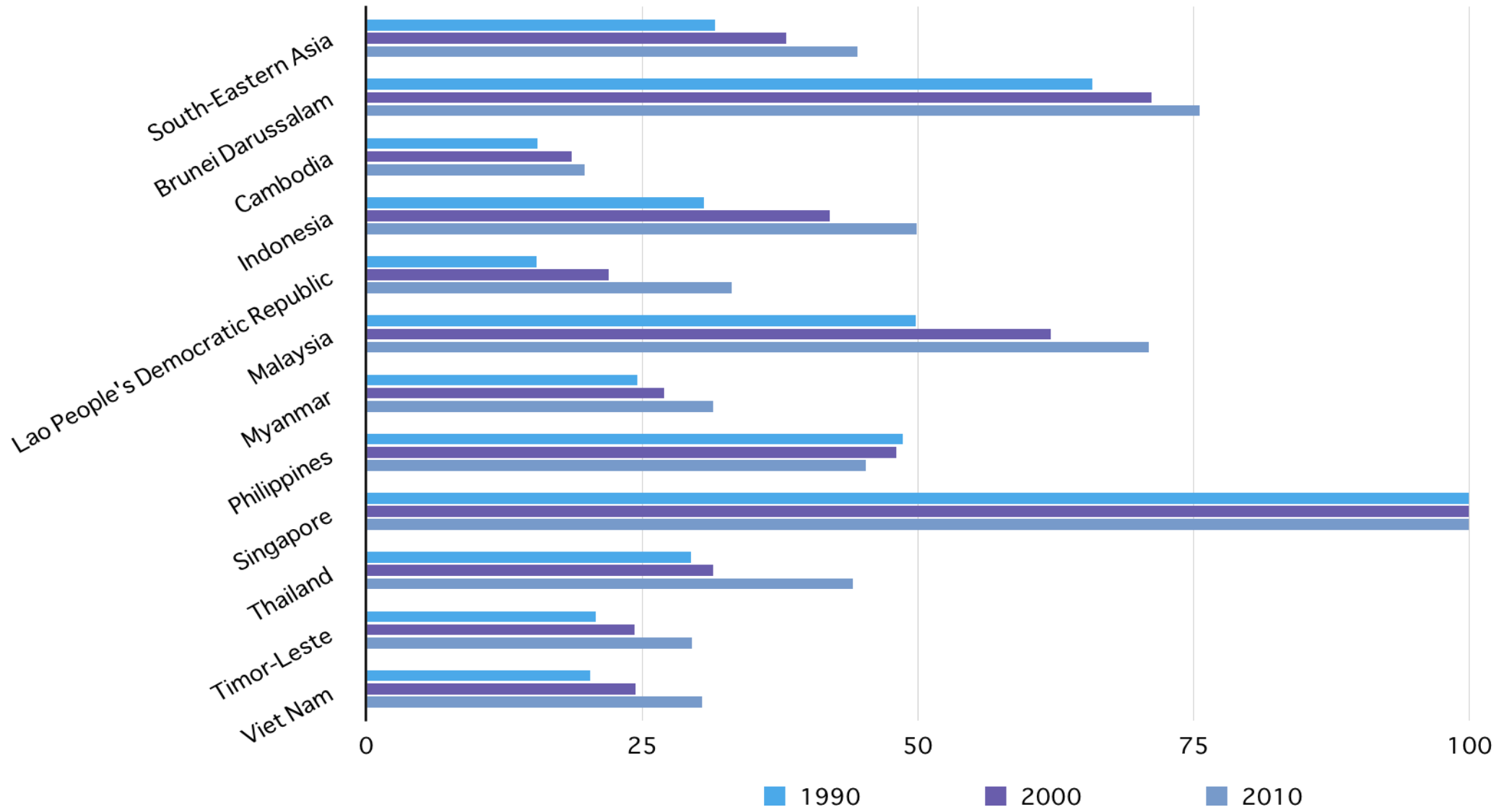
Increasing risks of global warming impacts and localised environmental disasters, disparities in income, education levels and job opportunities among urban populations.

This has called for a green growth model considering the local circumstances specific to Asian cities

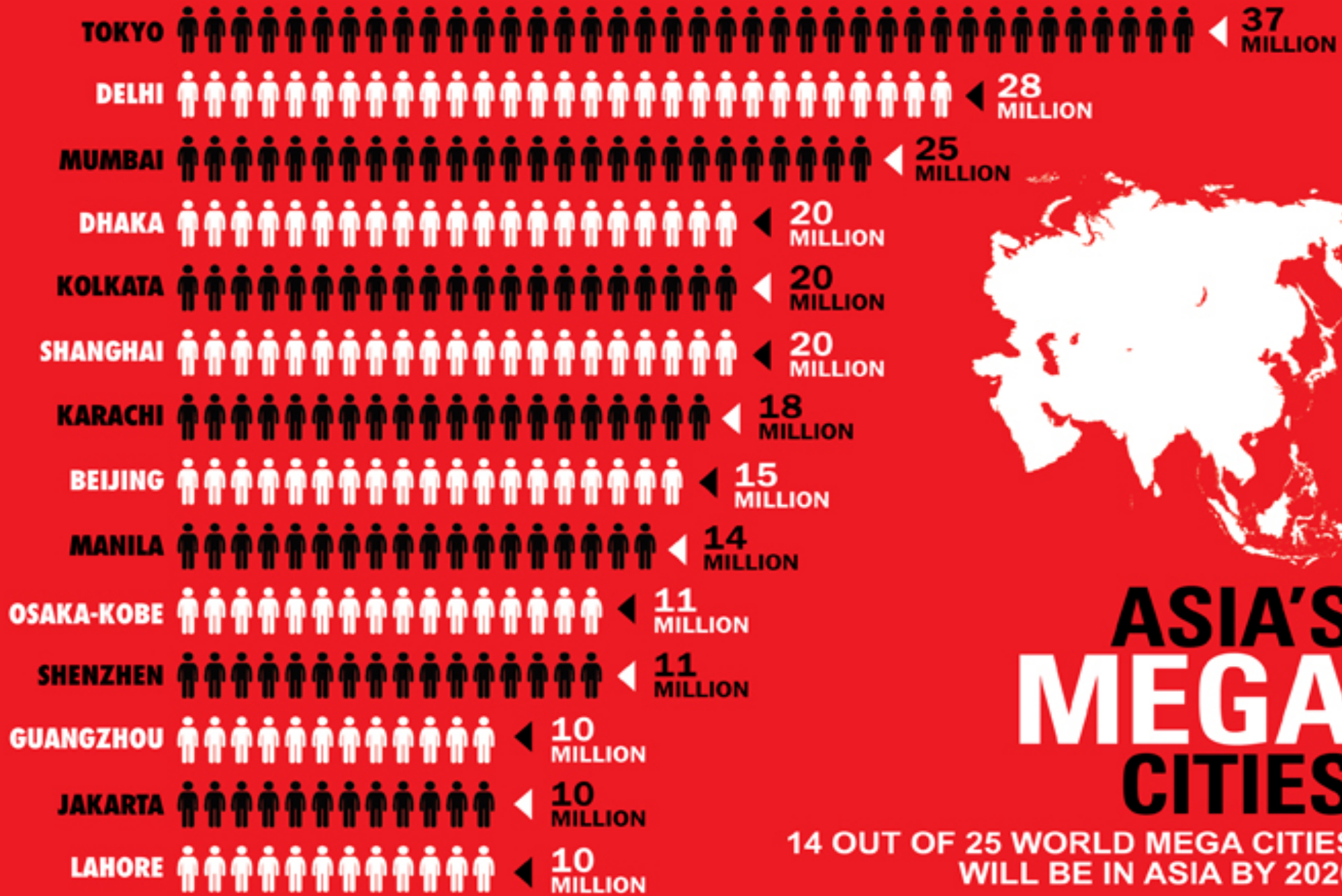
## ■ The impact of CC into national strategies

- The importance of **pluriannual development plans and strategies** as normative but also operational frameworks of public action: Vision 2020, MetroManila DreamPlan
- The dimension of risk and resilience as novel components of sustainability strategies in the region: the **evolution of sustainability expertise as to integrate physical and human vulnerabilities into its expertise**

# Percentage of Population Residing in Urban Areas at Mid-Year



Source: United Nations Population Information Network



(SOURCE: UN, WORLD POPULATION PROSPECTS)

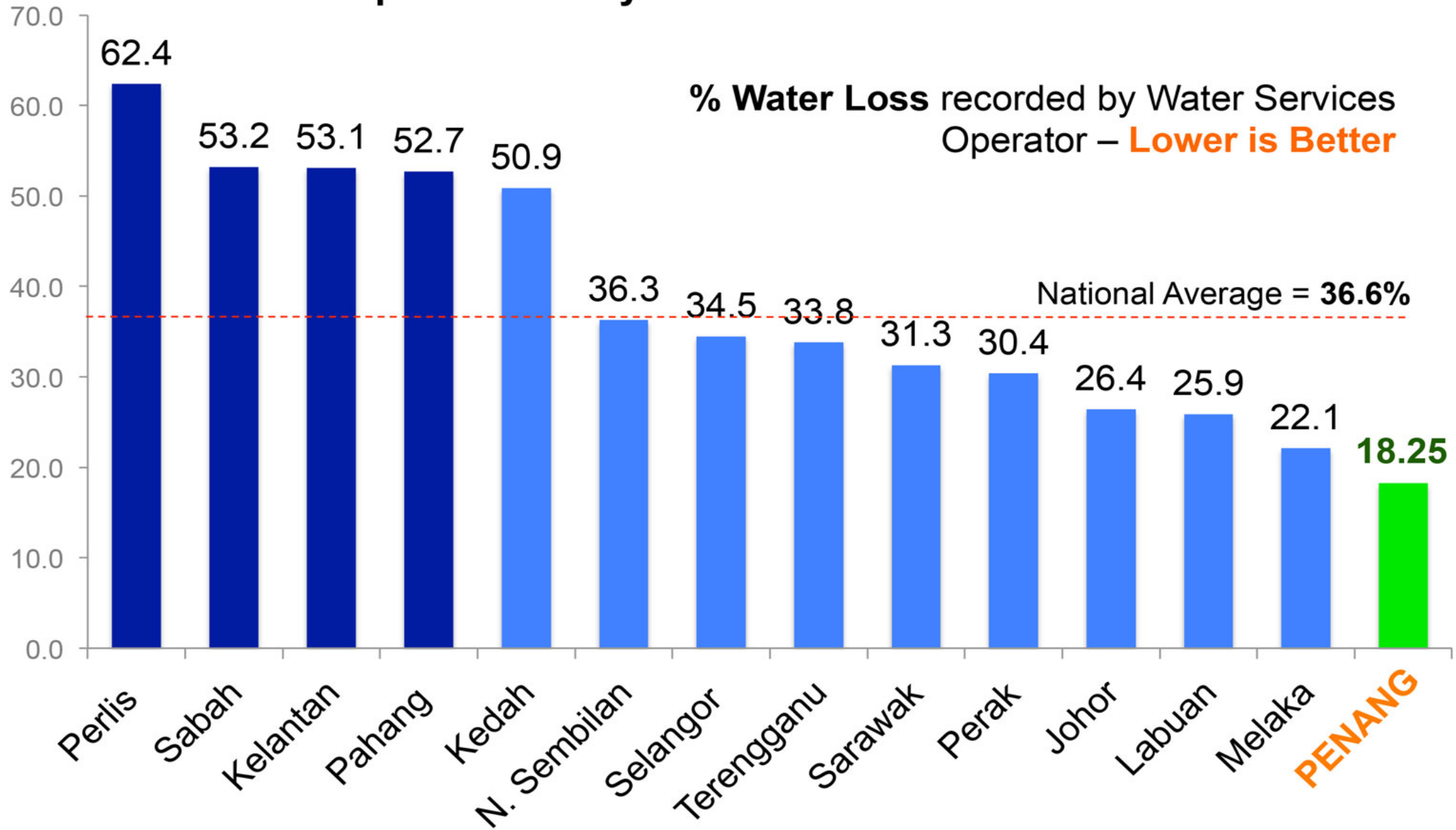
## Estimated investments in the water sector by country 2014-2018

Country/year	Water distribution (Investments)		Waste Water treatment (investments)		Equipment (investments)	
	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018
Indonesia	1847	3310	582	1321	1156	2210
Malaysia	902	915	500	1000	651	906
Philippines	244	307	255	327	229	297
Singapore	157	208	41	56	80	107
Thailand	140	196	81	154	109	170
Vietnam	409	443	166	344	257	342
<b>Total</b>	<b>3699</b>	<b>5379</b>	<b>1625</b>	<b>3204</b>	<b>2482</b>	<b>4032</b>

*All figures are in millions USD / year in 2014 and 2018. Source: Global Water Market 2014, Volume 3, Middle East and Asia Pacific. Global Water Intelligence Publication, 2013.*



# NRW Comparison Malaysia 2014



# GREENUT

Framework, Methodology and case studies

# The choice of academic partners and research networks

Four partnering institutions:

Sciences Po Paris: Urban School – CEE and CERI

LKY and the Water Policy Institute

El Ateneo de Manila

UTM of Johor

A pluridisciplinary approach

A critical discussion of green growth and sectoral sustainability strategies in the light of multi-level complex social interactions

# The Case Studies: Iskandar, Manila (Singapore)

Main debates on South East Asia urban studies

- “governing relations” “governing logic” “key decision makers” “political objectives”  
-> five modes of urban governance: clientelistic, corporatist, managerial, pluralist, and populist.
- entrepreneurialism in urban governance in the transitional economies of Asia (Chien 2008; Kennedy 2007)
- Ataöv and Eraydin (2011) structural aspects, actor relationships, and local context, place-specific political culture and networks, and flows between the key state and non-state actors
- Shatkin (2016) Jakarta, Chongqing, and Kolkata: two crucial variables.  
**government’s ability to exert direct control over land markets, autonomy of state land-use planning authorities from influence of the real estate lobby**

# The Case Studies: Iskandar, Manila (Singapore)

## THE WATER SECTOR:

- Government governs but not everything, every sector, every individual, all the time
- Some sectors are governed: strategic importance for accumulation and development plans (Wawasan 2020,
- Some sectors are not: social regulations, markets, socio-technical systems, institutions (marginalised public policies and political actors)
- What is not governed, and why?
- Is it just a lack of resources?

## THE ELECTRICITY SECTOR:

# Localism?

- Politics of greening utilities
- Political representation of an issue.
- Understanding the scale at which the leadership of urban governance operates.
  
- Who fight the competition between the cities for resources (money, FDI, expertise)? Mayors or state chief ministers?
  
- Do Iskandar & Manila have power for what Page calls localism, ‘the opportunities for local political elites to shape public services’?
- *‘functions’*
- *‘discretion’*
- *‘access’ i.e. resources and structural opportunities to influence the national government on strategies and instruments affecting cities.*



# Top down, meso-meso, meso-down?

- Iskandar as a case of top down innovation???
- Manila as a case of meso-meso innovation???
- What about coordination of informal actors providing services, having an impact on the water and energy systems?
- What about the steering of individual behaviour?
- Local agency and grass-rooted actors (beyond a normative vision)
- *Paradox and outcomes*
- *Green infrastructures and sustainable instruments to overcome jobless growth?*

# Structural contexts of opportunities for green growth

- the rise in middle-class consumerism
- understanding micro-level socioeconomic dynamics, which goes beyond the formal institutional arrangements.
- Specific local factors, such as clientelism, policy networks, landholding patterns, and the existing level of opportunities in the urban economy,
- Structural contexts of opportunities
- Are the local political leaders, as negotiators between competing interests, steer the direction of the developmental outcome.
- Who and How it accommodates mutual beneficial coalitions?
- Who and How it accommodates mutual beneficial coalitions during the process of implementation?

# Malaysia

## Developmental Ambitions driven by powerful economic dynamics

- § A strong developmental template (i.e. Centralized, public money driven, that accounts for major economic, social and territorial transformations in the peninsula over the last 30 years – Wawasan 2020 revamped)
- § ASEAN infrastructural integration and its impact on the territorial reinforcement of big economic hubs
- § The deployment of Megaregions across boundaries : the case of Batam, Singapore and Iskandar
- § The political economy of urban growth : because of it, in spite of it

## Sustainability as a principle mainstreamed to metropolitan growth policies

- § A sustainability template for each EPP program
- § Flagship projects : from sustainable interventions to eco-cities to eco-regions
- § Green growth as the leitmotiv behind territorial development

## The impact of utility development (accessibility, reliability, affordability) as a crucial entry for assessing the urban dimension of green strategies

- § A common privatizing template with mixed results
- § Important shortcomings pertaining to sustainability, appalling eco-systemic consequences
- § The lack of a nexus approach

# Philippines

## A State with limited operational capabilities

- § A weak State captured by powerful economic interests and limited planning and developmental features
- § The short end of the stick : the Philippines integration to ASEAN value chains lukewarm balance
- § The weight of a megaregion : dilemmas of unlimited urban growth and decentralization
- § The impact of policy transfer by bi-lateral and regional cooperation agencies

## Metropolitan sustainability unchecked ?

- § A piecemeal approach to Green : from segmented to competing to contradictory initiatives at the Metropolitan Scale
- § On the frontline of climate change : the impact of natural disasters and limited coordination capabilities (public policy as coordination Papadopoulos 2007)
- § Flagship projects : greenouting or greenwashing ? The limits of Manila's Dream Plan in the face of structural accumulation constraints
- § The political economy of Urban Growth : who makes the city ?

## The impact of utility development (accessibility, reliability, affordability) as a crucial entry for assessing the urban dimension of green strategies

- § Important shortcomings pertaining to sustainability, appalling eco-systemic consequences
- §
- § The lack of a nexus approach

# Conclusion

Concluding Slide

Main hypothesis

Pertaining to Urban Planning

Pertaining to the policy process of governing sustainability in the city

Pertaining to the formulation of an encompassing analytical framework for the study of cities, societies and territories