SEA ASEAN
Overview of Achievements and Further Plans

Groningen Research Centre for Southeast Asia and ASEAN (SEA ASEAN)

April 2024

Prepared by Prof. Ronald Holzhaeker
Special Professor, Director: Groningen Research Centre for Southeast Asia and ASEAN
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1 Executive summary

This document gives an overview of the achievements of the Groningen Research Centre for Southeast Asia and ASEAN (SEA ASEAN) over the past ten years and sets forth further plans for the period ahead 2024 – 2028. It has been prepared by Prof. Ronald Holzhacker, Special Professor, Director Groningen Research Centre for Southeast Asia and ASEAN.

SEA ASEAN
The aim of SEA ASEAN is to further interdisciplinary research on contemporary Southeast Asia and ASEAN. We build on the successful framework of interfaculty cooperation at the University of Groningen. Our plans contribute to the realization of UG's international teaching and research intentions. The proposal has been developed in coordination with the central department of International Strategy and Relations. SEA ASEAN focuses its ambitions and activities around its three key strategic goals of Research, Recruitment and Societal Impact.

1.1 Research
We aim to bridge high quality scholarly research, with policy relevance and a concern for societal outcomes, in the study of the nations and societies of Southeast Asia and ASEAN as a regional actor. SEA ASEAN also encourages comparative research within the region and research on regional cooperation within ASEAN. The Centre also encourages comparative research on Southeast Asia and Europe, and on EU-ASEAN and ASEAN +3 relations. This will be realised through a series of annual programs, such as the Annual Conferences held in Groningen or prominent locations important for outreach, for example, Brussels, Amsterdam, Yogyakarta, Indonesia and Bangkok, Thailand.

1.2 Recruitment
Our focus is on Middle-Income Countries (MICs) with democratic traditions in Southeast Asia and those in transition in the region. The MICs in the region, part of the founding countries of ASEAN, with certain participatory and democratic traditions, include Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Countries in economic and political transition, including Vietnam and Myanmar, as well as Cambodia and Laos. SEA ASEAN also cooperates with Singapore and the Singaporean universities engaged in SE Asia. The Centre actively reaches out to partner universities in the region to attract PhD candidates and Master students to the University of Groningen. We also cooperate closely with universities in countries with a strong focus on Southeast Asian research and studies, including universities in Japan and Australian. Our current group of PhDs are a good representation of our target region and our plans in the coming years is to continue to reach out to the rest of Southeast Asia and ASEAN institutions.

1.3 Societal impact
The activities within Research and Recruitment are part of our production for societal impact. These efforts crystallize in a series of edited book with our university partners, and submissions to leading academic journals. We also reach out to policymakers, political leaders, NGOs and the media in the countries where we are active and engaged.
1.4 Recent Achievements

• Organized a major conference ‘Transformative Futures’ in Bangkok, Thailand together with Thammasat University (Bangkok) and Gadjah Mada University focused on climate change and sustainable development, implementation by cities in Southeast Asia. We brought together 48 scholars, policymakers and political leaders to discuss senior research and guide a graduate PhD conference, Bangkok. March 14-17, 2023.

• Delegation of ASEAN Ambassadors, four talks in the Senate Room, with reception with University President Jouke de Vries, students, and faculty, organized by SEA ASEAN. February 22, 2023.

  Embassy of The Republic of Indonesia: H.E. Mr Mayerfas, Ambassador
  The Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines: H.E. Ambassador Malaya
  The Embassy of Malaysia: Dr. Mohd Norhisyam Mohd Yusof, Deputy Chief of Mission
  Royal Thai Embassy: Ms. Chonvipat Changtrakul, DCM/Minister Counsellor

• Completion of book submission to Brill publishing ‘Transformative Futures’ in March 2024.

• Launching of a deepened cooperation with Gadjah Mada University of a ‘Hub’ focused research and engagement on five themes, including ‘livable cities’ with the Geography Department and Architecture and Planning at UGM, in close cooperation with the UG central administration and office of International Strategy and Relations.

• Engagement with diplomatic community in the Hague at the Science event organized at the Royal Palace Amsterdam, extensive discussions with Ambassadors of Indonesia, Thailand, and Philippines and Japan, conversations with King William Alexander about Indonesia and other Groningen themes, student wellness, energy and climate research at UG. June 14, 2023.

• Launching of a new double degree PhD with Thammasat University, with the School of Architecture and Design, with our Spatial Science faculty.

• Extensive discussion with Macquarie University, Comprehensive Strategic Partner of UG, to link various faculties and UG Schools and Macquarie’s Conciliation centres. Meetings in Sydney November 2023, and preparation of four on-line meetings: 1) UG Spatial Sciences and MQ Geography and Planning, with Rudolf Agricola School of Sustainable Development (Frans Sijtsma and MQ Green City Initiative, 2) IRIO with MQ political science and international relations, 3) Law Faculty and MQ Law School, also with Janita Tamnes School of Digital Society, Technology and Law (Ming Cao), and Wubbo Ockels School of Energy and Climate (Lorenzo Squintani), 4) SE Asia and broader Asia-Pacific development and politics. March 4-7, 2024.

• Japanese Embassy. Continued outreach to diplomatic community, especially to Southeast Asian Ambassadors, and to the Asian-Pacific region (Australian) at the Japanese embassy, invitation by Japanese Ambassador to celebrate the birthday of his Majesty, the Emperor of Japan. The Hague, 21 February, 2024.
• Indonesian Ministry talk to SEA ASEAN community. Indonesia Vice Minister for Finance, Dr. Suahasil Nazara delivered a talk 'Economic Development in an Emerging Country: An Update.' The Minister was introduced by our Director of International Strategy & Relations, Mr. Mervin Bakker, representing the President of the University, Prof. Jouke de Vries during his visit to the Asia Pacific. SEA ASEAN director functioned as the master of ceremonies. March 14, 2024.

• International Criminal Court ICC (former) Judge Pangalangan, now Professor of Law, University of the Philippines, Diliman campus, delivered a talk The Power and Limits of International Criminal Justice, at the University of Groningen Law Faculty, April 9, 2024.

1.5 The Objectives Ahead, the Next Four Years

• Continued outreach across the University of Groningen, to the wide number of faculties involved and the new Schools located in the House of Connections focused on engagement, outreach, and societal impact of research.

• Continued development of the new ‘Hub’ created between Gadjah Mada University and the University of Groningen, with special emphasis on ‘livable cities.’

• Continued development of the double degree PhD program with our close partner ITB Bandung, bringing current candidates through to completion, and recruitment of new PhD candidates.

• Bringing to fruition the new double degree PhD program with Thammasat University (Bangkok), with the recruitment and start of the first PhD candidates as part of this program.

• Continued development of the new double degree PhD program with Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. Following the visit in November 2023, setting up four match making meetings between various departments and Schools at the two universities including 1) spatial sciences and Agricola School with MQ geography and planning and Green City Initiative, 2) political science and international relations. 3) Law and the Janita Tamme digital School and Wubbo Ockels school on energy and climate, 4) SE Asia and broader Asia-Pacific politics and development.

• Continued engagement with the diplomatic community in the Hague and beyond, Ambassadors from the five ASEAN countries with representation in the Hague, and others active in the broader Asia Pacific area, including Japan and Australia.

• Book launches and small conference organized for the ‘Transformative Futures’ Brill book, in Europe and Asia organized with partners.
2 About SEA ASEAN – An Innovative, Inter-Faculty Research Team

The Groningen Research Centre for Southeast Asia and ASEAN (SEA ASEAN) was established in early 2016 at the University of Groningen (UG), with a regional office at Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia opened by the Rector of UGM and the UG President on 1st November 2016. It is the successor organization to the Spirit Indonesia Groningen (SInGA) which began two years earlier to bring PhD candidates to UG with scholarships funded by the World Bank. Both of these programs were founded and directed by Prof. Ronald Holzhacker, Special Professor.

**SEA ASEAN aims to**
- Bridge high quality research with policy relevance and a concern for sustainable societal outcomes.
- Further interdisciplinary research on Southeast Asia and ASEAN.

A unique characteristic of the SEA ASEAN program is that it brings a close - knit team of energetic and engaged researchers together. The team meets every 4-6 weeks in both professional capacities and social situations, to build an academic and personal home for the PhD candidates from Southeast Asia. A team emerges that bridges various Faculties and disciplines at the University of Groningen, with a comparative perspective across Southeast Asia, and more broadly across the Asia Pacific and Europe.

The applicants are carefully selected, typically arrive with relevant existing research and policy backgrounds either as civil servants with 6 – 8 years’ experience, or as university lecturers at the leading universities across Southeast Asia. They typically have demonstrated significant competences by completing a Master’s thesis in the English language, either from Dutch, Australian, or American universities. Upon return to their home countries upon completion of the PhD, these new doctorates play an important institutional role, linking UG and universities across the region for continued student recruitment at the Masters and PhD levels, research collaboration with UG, and outreach to national governments, stakeholders, NGOs and inter-governmental institutions in the region (UN ESCAP, World Bank, ICLEI Sustainable Society).

Most of the PhD arrive with a scholarship from their home countries, which provide their living expenses, travel, and 10,000 Euro a year tuition for 4 years to the Faculty or Faculties where they have been admitted. These funds, along with the PhD bonus paid by the Netherlands Ministry of Education upon graduation, means that for each 10 PhD candidates participating in the SEA ASEAN program brings in 1 million Euro across the various faculties of the University of Groningen.

The SEA ASEAN program has been funded by the Central Administration and the Ubbo Emmius Foundation to foster this cross-faculty engagement by scholars and PhD candidates, to conduct high quality, inter-disciplinary, comparative research, to recruit new PhD candidates and build awareness of the Master programs offered by the University, and to build consistent, long lasting institutional ties to the universities, institutions, and governments in the region to assure continuity in these critical relationships.
2.1 Linkages within UG
SEA ASEAN is an interfaculty cooperation, located in the Faculty of Spatial Sciences on the Zernike campus of the University of Groningen. SEA ASEAN works closely with faculties across the university and advises and coordinates with the central administration of the University of Groningen.

2.2 Key strategic goals
SEA ASEAN will invest energy and resources on the key strategic goals of i) Research, ii) Recruitment and iii) Societal impact in the coming years.

i) Research:
- Developing and publishing new and innovative research on Southeast Asia and ASEAN.
- Collection and distribution of empirical data in our focus areas, including climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Exploring and advancing methodologies suitable for our research themes and focus areas.

ii) Recruitment:
- Recruiting PhD candidates and Master students for all faculties in UG relevant to our research areas and themes.
- Get international students familiar with the UG way of conducting research and higher education through our Graduate Schools and to the Schools located in the House of Connections.

iii) Societal impact & Valorization:
- Valorize and communicate the societal impacts of our research.
- Engage with the societal and policy arenas to promote a sustainable future.
- Connect various international and local policy organizations (i.e. EU, ASEAN, UNDP, UN ESCAP, World Bank) with our affiliated knowledge institutes and civil society.
2.3 **Research themes and focus areas**
Southeast Asia is a region with incredibly dynamic growth and change. The challenges in these regions for a sustainable future and society are both multi-faceted and complex. With the rapid societal and technological transitions in those regions, innovative solutions for a sustainable and future-oriented society are being explored. SEA ASEAN recognizes these challenges and opportunities and seeks to bridge the knowledge institutes and state of the art research in Europe with those in Southeast Asia and ASEAN. As a research-oriented institute, we recognize that there are lessons to be learnt and drawn from both regions and the various institutes that we seek to bridge. Following the UG tradition of interdisciplinary and inter-faculty cooperation, SEA ASEAN has identified the following research themes and experts (see Table 1);

*Table 1: Key research themes for SEA ASEAN and UG faculties and researchers involved*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research themes</th>
<th>Faculties (UG)</th>
<th>PIs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Governance and Planning</strong></td>
<td>• Faculty of Spatial Sciences (Environment and Spatial Planning, governance, economic and cultural geography, social demography)</td>
<td>• Prof. Johan Woltjer&lt;br&gt;• Prof. Ronald Holzhacker&lt;br&gt;• Prof. Jos Arts&lt;br&gt;• Prof. Ina Horlings&lt;br&gt;• Prof. Frank Vanclay&lt;br&gt;• Prof. Hinke Haisma&lt;br&gt;(Assoc.) Prof. Christina Prell&lt;br&gt;(Assoc.) Prof. Margo van den Brink&lt;br&gt;(Assoc.) Prof. Terry van Dijk&lt;br&gt;(Asst.) Prof. E. Turhan&lt;br&gt;(Asst.) Prof. S. Verweij&lt;br&gt;(Asst.) Prof. E. Trell&lt;br&gt;(Asst.) Prof. Kempenaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Governance and Sustainable Society</strong></td>
<td>• Faculty of Arts (International Relations)</td>
<td>• Prof. Ronald Holzhacker&lt;br&gt;• Prof. Herman Hoen&lt;br&gt;• Prof. Jaap de Wilde&lt;br&gt;• Prof. Jan van der Harst&lt;br&gt;(Asst.) Prof. Frank Gaenssmanatel&lt;br&gt;(Asst.) Prof. Greg Fuller&lt;br&gt;(Asst.) Prof. Lukas Linsi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental Governance</strong></td>
<td>• Faculty of Science and Engineering</td>
<td>• Prof. Klaus Hubacek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Faculty and Specializations</td>
<td>Professors</td>
</tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **Economic Development and Governance** | • Faculty of Economics (developmental economics)  
• Faculty of Economics (corporate governance) | • Prof. Niels Hermes  
• Dr. Bart Jan Pennink |
| **Law and Governance**      | • Faculty of Law (governance, law, human rights)  
• Faculty of Law (intellectual property) | • Prof. Aurelia Colombi Ciacchi  
• Prof. Albertjan Tollenaar  
• Prof. Mathijs ten Wolde |
| **Arts and Culture**        | • Faculty of Arts (humanities, film, cultural expression)  
• Faculty of Arts (research in media and culture) | • Prof. Barend van Heusden |
| **Religion and Culture**    | • Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies.  
• Center for the Study of Religion and Culture in Asia. | • Prof. Peter Berger  
• Prof. Marjo Buitelaar |
| **Engineering and Technology** | • Faculty of Science & Engineering  
• Green Chemical Reaction Engineering | • Prof. Erik Heeres |
| **Medicine and Health**     | • Faculty of Science & Engineering  
(pharmaceutical epidemiology) | • Prof. Maarten Postma |
SEA ASEAN Achievements and Further Plans

The bridging of culturally and politically diverse regions through research and recruitment is an ambition of SEA ASEAN. Focusing on middle-income developing countries with a democratic tradition, our focus countries are:

- Indonesia
- Thailand
- Philippines
- Malaysia

SEA ASEAN will also focus on countries in economic and political transition such as:

- Vietnam
- Myanmar
- Laos
- Cambodia

In addition, Singapore as a regional leader within ASEAN, with a strong university educational sector, is an important partner for SEA ASEAN.

2.4 Strategic partners and network

As a research institute aiming to bridge the worlds of policy and academia between Southeast Asia and ASEAN and Europe, SEA ASEAN has developed a network of key strategic partners, and affiliate institutes and networks that will be involved in our various projects and events. Through our strategic plan, we seek to grow this network in the coming years.

Our key strategic partners are:

2. Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand.
3. University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines
4. University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
5. Macquarie University, Sydney Australia

Our affiliated institutes and networks are:

- University of Hamburg
- NSU, Singapore
- University of Melbourne, School of Social and Political Sciences, Australia
- Souphanouvong University, Luang Prabang, Laos
- National University of Vietnam, VNU-HCMC
2.5 Our team
The team in behind SEA ASEAN is based in Groningen, as well as in Indonesia and Thailand. The team will be interacting with relevant offices at the level of the university and the faculties.

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3 Milestones of SEA ASEAN

SEA ASEAN has focused on research and publications as well as establishing a regional presence in the past years and will continue our efforts in the coming period. Our activities and milestones are measured in terms of our three key strategic areas of i) **Research**, ii) **Recruitment** and iii) **Societal impact**.

3.1 Achievements

The highlights of the past ten years (2014 – 2024) since the establishment of the SInGA and then the SEA ASEAN research program.

- Recruitment of the first and second generation of SInGA and SEA ASEAN candidates – current and graduated PhDs 32 in total, from Indonesia (28), Thailand (2), and Vietnam (2).
- Publication the edited volume, “Decentralization and Governance in Indonesia’ (New York: Springer 2016) and book launch at the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.
- Publication of volume ‘Challenges of Governance in Southeast Asia and ASEAN,’ (New York: Springer 2020).
- Opening of our SEA ASEAN Centre at Gadjah Mada University
- Inaugural lecture of Prof. R. Holzhacker in 22nd Nov 2016.
- Official visits to partner universities in SE Asia to prepare conferences and joint publications.
- SEA ASEAN Erasmus+ grant (EPLUS-CBHE-UM-2017-GRON-005) BRECIL ‘Building Social Science Research Capacities in Higher Education Institutions in Lao PDR and Malaysia’ with partners Gothenburg University, University of Applied Languages SDI Munich, University of Malaya, University Utara Malaysia, National University of Laos, and Souphanouvong University. BRECIL has been granted EUR 681.035 (EUR 71.313 to Groningen) as one of the selected 149 applications out of a total of 756.
- Pre-departure event in Groningen with Southeast Asian Ambassadors and staff, 4 countries, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines, speaking in the Senate Room with reception, hosted by President Jouke de Vries.
- Major Conference in Bangkok, Thailand at the Netherlands embassy, organized together with Thammasat University (Bangkok) and Gadjah Mada University (Yogyakarta, Indonesia), focused on climate and sustainable development, implementation by cities in Southeast Asia.
- Submission of book to Brill publishing ‘Transformative Futures’
### 3.2 SInGA/SEA ASEAN PhD Candidates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Research Area</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tatang Muttaqin</td>
<td>Behavioral and Social Sciences</td>
<td>SPIRIT/World Bank</td>
<td>Education in Indonesia</td>
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<td>Taufiq Hidayat Putra</td>
<td>Spatial Sciences</td>
<td>SPIRIT/World Bank</td>
<td>Metropolitan planning in Jakarta region</td>
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<td>Nureni Wijayati</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>NUFFIC</td>
<td>Corporate Governance in Southeast Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laksmi Kusumawati</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>SPIRIT/World Bank</td>
<td>Inclusive Growth and Municipalities, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mala Sondang Silitonga</td>
<td>Behavioral and Social Sciences</td>
<td>SPIRIT/World Bank</td>
<td>Leadership and corruption, Indonesia</td>
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<td>Kuswanto</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>SPIRIT/World Bank</td>
<td>Managing Foreign Direct Investment, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suwatin Miharti</td>
<td>Arts/Behavioral and Social Sciences</td>
<td>SPIRIT/World Bank</td>
<td>Primary health clinics, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annisa Paramita Wiharani</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>LPDP</td>
<td>Transnational Municipal Networks</td>
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<td>Yoga Permana</td>
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<td>LPDP</td>
<td>FDI and Domestic Constraints, Indonesia</td>
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<td>LPDP</td>
<td>Decentralization for regional development, Papua, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanati Netipatalachoochot</td>
<td>Spatial Sciences/ Law</td>
<td>Thai Presidential Scholarship</td>
<td>ASEAN and human rights in Southeast Asia</td>
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<td>Titissari Rumbogo</td>
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<td>Petrus Farneubun</td>
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<td>Nguyen Phan Khoi</td>
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<td>Forest resources</td>
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<td>Thai Van Quoc Nguyen</td>
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<td>Diani Indah Rachmitasari</td>
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<td>Port-Cities and Sustainable</td>
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<td>Asri Samsu</td>
<td>Spatial Sciences UG-ITB</td>
<td>Institution Planning for Integrated Water Management Approach (IUWM): Indonesia</td>
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<td>Martin Drenth</td>
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<td>UE</td>
<td>Transition to Water Sensitive</td>
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<td>Astrid Kuntjara</td>
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<td>UE</td>
<td>Indonesia: Special Economic Zones</td>
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<td>LPDP</td>
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<td>Binyuan Liu</td>
<td>Science and Engineering</td>
<td>UE</td>
<td>Emission Growth Drivers</td>
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<td>Lisna Rahayu</td>
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<td>LPDP</td>
<td>Transport</td>
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<td>Anita Vitriana</td>
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<td>LPDP</td>
<td>Housing, Bandung</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rya Chandramidi</td>
<td>Spatial Sciences</td>
<td>home uni.</td>
<td>Water as leverage, coastal</td>
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<td>Rama Putra</td>
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<td>LPDP</td>
<td>Sustainable Peri-Urban</td>
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<td>Irma Yusfida</td>
<td>Spatial Sciences UG-ITB</td>
<td>LPDP</td>
<td>Transit, adaptive behavior</td>
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</table>
4 Major Conference and Book Project:

Transformative Futures: International Climate Change and Sustainable Development, Challenges of Implementation in Cities in Southeast Asia

14-17 March 2023 | Hybrid: Bangkok, Thailand and online
rug.nl/transformative-futures-2023
Transformative Futures of Cities: Climate and Sustainable Development in Southeast Asia

Book Abstract:

In a world defined by the dual challenges of climate change and need for sustainable development, cities play a pivotal role in reimagining the future trajectories of our planet and societies. This scholarly volume authored by an international cohort of scholars is dedicated to understanding and addressing the dynamic transformations of cities, with a particular focus on Upper Middle-Income Countries (MICs) in Southeast Asia.

The book underscores the complex interplay between global environmental changes and human choice, highlighting the critical implications for climate adaptation and sustainable development. It delves into the intricate web of multi-level governance, involving national, provincial, and local governments, public and private stakeholders, civil society organizations, and citizens, to navigate the path toward a resilient and sustainable urban future. The spotlight is on Southeast Asia, an epicenter of diverse societies, cultures, and economic development, including Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, and the Philippines.

Structured into four core themes, the book embarks on a comprehensive exploration of the city’s transformative journey:

I. Urbanism and Spatial Dimensions of Climate and Sustainable Development - This section examines the crucial role of cities in confronting climate and development challenges, considering the region’s unique contextual factors.

II. Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure and Housing - This section dissects the relationship between infrastructure and housing in shaping climate action and sustainable development, encompassing vital areas like transport, housing, port development, and public-private partnerships.

III. Water, Flooding, Drought: Environmental Challenges and Equity And Gender – This section is focused on environmental issues, addresses water-related challenges, including flooding and drought, and emphasizes considerations of equity and gender.

IV. Governance for Climate Change: Leadership, Stakeholder Engagement, and Community Involvement - The final section of the book delves into the critical aspects of governance, underscoring the roles of leadership, stakeholder engagement, and community participation in fostering sustainability and climate change responses.

Key research questions guide the volume’s exploration, aiming to decipher how cities in Southeast Asia can respond effectively to climate change and sustainable development, seeking synergies between climate mitigation/adaptation and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), acknowledging the need to confront the potential for growing socio-economic inequality, increased energy use, and greenhouse gas emissions in the region. As the book questions how cities can align with climate measures and the SDGs, it positions governance, stakeholder engagement, and citizen support as cornerstones for successful implementation.

Cities are evolving, responding to the profound impacts of climate change, and seeking innovative pathways to sustainable development. This book offers invaluable insights for urban planners, policymakers, researchers, and all stakeholders committed to shaping a future where cities thrive in harmony with the planet and their inhabitants. It bridges generational and regional knowledge, reflecting the shared responsibility of leaders, scholars, practitioners, and citizens to drive the transformation of cities into resilient, sustainable, and equitable urban environments.
Transformative Futures of Cities: Sustainable Development and Climate in Southeast Asia

Brill Publishing
15 October, 2023
HANDBOOK SERIES

Editors:
Ronald Holzhacker (University of Groningen)
Bakti Setiawan (Gadjah Mada University)
Dyah Rahmawati Hizbaron (UGM) (including intro to Section II)
Kim Neil Irvine (Thammasat University) (including intro to Section III)
Christina Prell (UG) (including intro to Section IV)
Klaus Hubacek (UG)

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5. Annual Conferences, Diplomatic Talks, Meetings with Universities Abroad

Sharing scholarly research and insight into contemporary issues in Southeast Asia with civil society, governments, and international and regional institutions.

2024

*Japanese Embassy*, invitation of the ambassador, to celebrate the birthday of the Emperor, together with diplomatic community including Southeast Asian Ambassadors, The Hague, February 21, 2024.

*Visit by Mahidol University (Bangkok) to UG, 16 PhD candidates and 2 lecturers, to SEA ASEAN and IRIO and Law. Groningen, January 25, 2024.*
2023

*Visiting Professor, Macquarie University*, meetings with a wide range of departments and faculties, Faculty of Arts, political science, international relations, geography, law, and Green City Initiative, as well as with the Vice Chancellor Bruce Dowton. November 2023.

*Visit to Gadjah Mada University*, with Dean Johan Woltjer to discuss book project and new double degree PhDs, various departments – Geography, Architecture and Planning, Public Policy, October 25-28, 2023.

*Visit to ITB Bandung*, with Dean Johan Woltjer to discuss the good progress and supervision of the current DD PhDs, UG-ITB, Bandung, October 20-24, 2023.

*Visit to Thammasat University* with Dean Johan Woltjer, to three faculties: Architecture and Planning, Political Science, and Economics to discuss and finalize DD PhDs and to discuss finalizing the book project. Bangkok, October 2023.

*Participation with Indonesian WINNER event* with Gadjah Mada University on-line, introducing our Transformative Future book’s research themes and findings on climate and sustainable development. On-line, Jakarta. October 11, 2023.

*Visit by Tavida Kamolvej, Deputy Governor of Bangkok*, and her delegation to Groningen, here in a meeting with President Jouke de Vries and SEA ASEAN director Ronald Holzhacker, Groningen. September 27, 2023.

*Visit of Japanese Ambassador*, Hiroshi Minami, to SEA ASEAN and meeting with President Jouke de Vries, discussion on Asia Pacific university cooperation.

*Appointed to Advisory Board*, oversight Wubbo Ockels School of Energy and Climate, first meeting May 15, 2023.
*Invitation by the King William Alexander and Queen Maxima, Science event, bringing together the Core Diplomatique in the Hague and scholars at Dutch universities working with universities abroad, interaction with SE Asia Ambassadors, Amsterdam, June 14, 2023.

*Organised Academic Conference and PhD conference ‘Transformative Futures’ at the Netherlands Embassy organized together with Thammasat University and Gadjah Mada, March 13-17, Bangkok, Thailand.

*UG-MU Cooperation. Meeting with Bruce Dowton, Vice Chancellor Macquarie University and Presidet Jouke de Vries, to discuss research cooperation, DD PhDs, and collaboration between the UG Schools (Sustainable, Energy and Climate, digital and AI, and Public Health) with the UG Consilience Centres. Sydney, March 6, 2023.

*Southeast Asia Ambassadors talk and reception with President Jouke de Vries, Ambassadors and embassy officers Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines, pre-departure to Bangkok conference. Groningen, February 22, 2023

2022

*Speaker, EU-ASEAN Brussels conference on higher education cooperation, two days prior to the EU-ASEAN summit, asked to speak about experience with cooperation, BRECIL research project and SEA ASEAN, December 12, 2022

*Lunch with the Indonesian Ambassador and First Officer, Indonesian festival event, discussion on cooperation in higher education. The Hague, December 11, 2022.

*SEA ASEAN festive Indonesian dinner at my home with PhD candidates and supervisors, celebrating the careful preparation for finalizing conference papers and presentations for upcoming Bangkok conference, Groningen, December 1, 2022.

*Meeting with Patrick Verkoijen, Center for Climate Adaptation, about Southeast Asia and upcoming conference in Bangkok. Groningen, November 29, 2022.
Meeting with Prof. Nizam, DG Higher Education, Indonesia, to discuss creation of a UG-UGM Hub, Groningen, November 26.

Meeting with Indonesian Ambassador Mayerfas, Groningen, November 17, 2022.

Meeting at the University of Tokyo, Future Initiatives, with Professor Aki Kawasaki, discussion on climate and sustainable development, participation in upcoming Bangkok conference. Tokyo, November 10, 2022.

Join UG delegation to Southeast Asia and Japan led by President Jouke de Vries to Indonesia, Singapore and Japan, October 29-November 8, 2022.

Visit to ITB Bandung, to discuss DD PhDs, policies and guidelines, recruit PhD candidates to join, talk on Sustainable Development Goals. Bandung, October 26-28.

Teaching at Clingendael to 17 midcareer diplomats from Southeast Asia, about the Sustainable Development Goals. The Hague, September 23, 2022.


Speaker with UGM at the 5th World Planning Conference, 16th Asian Planning Association Congress, focus on the new Indonesian capital, Bali August 29-September 2, 2022.

Invitation to speak at the University of Hamburg, Africa Asia Institute, June 24-25 2022.


Indonesian day dinner, with the Indonesian Ambassador, Minerva, Groningen 21 March 2022.

Fieldtrip with PhD Candidates and Master students, Rijksmuseum exhibit on Indonesia. Amsterdam. March 6, 2022

SEA ASEAN Climate conference, Also discussion with the Vietnam Ambassador and President Jouke de Vries, on-line and live Van Swinderhuis, Groningen. January 25, 2021

BRECIL EU research project, with Malaysian and Laos University partners, on increasing capacities for social science research, final conference, on-line 8 June 2021.
2020


*Meeting with the Vietnamese Ambassador, new opportunities for higher education collaboration, the Hague February 19, 2020.

2019


*Fall conference: Governance for Sustainable Development in Southeast Asia

*2018 Fall conference: Challenges of Governance for Innovation, Resilience and Sustainability. ASEAN and EU: Looking toward the Global Goals 2030 (Brussels)
Key-Notes:
- Singaporean Ambassador to the European Union, The Honorable Mr. Jaya Ratnam
- Indonesian Ambassador to the European Union, The Honorable Mr. Yuri Octavian
- United Nations, UN ESCAP headquarters Bangkok, Dr. Naylin Oo
- Director Heads for Southeast Asia: EU External Action Service, DG Research, DG DEVCO

*2017 Fall conference: Challenges of Governance in Southeast Asia and ASEAN (Groningen)
Key-Note: Indonesian Ambassador to the Netherlands, The Honorable Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja
*2016  Fall conference: Bridging East Asia & Southeast Asia: China and ASEAN and Contemporary Asian Relations (Groningen)  
Key notes:  
• Indonesian Ambassador to the Netherlands, The Honorable Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja  

*2015  Fall conference: Governance and Sustainable Society in Southeast Asia (The Hague and Amsterdam)  
Key-Notes:  
• Rijksmuseum, Curator for the 20th Century, Mr. Harm Stevens  
• Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Asia desk, Mira Woldberg (now NL Ambassador to NZ)  

*2014  Fall Conference: Good Governance and Sustainable Society (Groningen)  
Key-Notes:  
• Indonesian Ambassador to the Netherlands, The Honorable Retno Marsudi (now Indonesian Foreign Minister)  
World Bank, Executive Director, Rudolf Treffers. 

6. Selected Recent Publications Related to SEA ASEAN  


‘Framing Trade Policy Preferences and Dialogues in ASEAN Economic Integration: The Case of The Automotive Industry’ Permana, P., Hoen, H. & Holzhacker, R.,


*Sustainable Development Goals in Southeast Asia and ASEAN: National and Regional Approaches*, co-edited with Dafri Agus Salim, Gadjah Mada University, with contributing professors from across Southeast Asia, Singapore: Brill 2019.

‘The Interplay Between Business Preferences, Concern over Competition, and Commitment to Economic Integration: Lessons from ASEAN Open Skies Policy in Indonesia,’ Yoga Permana, Herman Hoen, Ronald Holzhacker, submission to *Asia Pacific Journal of Public Administration*.


‘Local Experience, Knowledge, and Network Adaptations with Environmental Resources: The Case of a Fishing Village in Central Vietnam’, Henner Leithäuser and Ronald Holzhacker, under review *Regional Environmental Change*.

Challenges of Governance in Southeast Asia and ASEAN, co-edited with Wendy Tan, with PhD candidate contributors from the SEA ASEAN research centre from Indonesia, Vietnam, and Thailand, New York: Springer 2020.
SEA ASEAN: Achievements and Further Plans
7. Completed SEA ASEAN PhD Dissertations

Tatang Muttaqin, *The Education Divide in Indonesia: Four essays on determinants of unequal access to and quality of education*

Taufiq Hidayat Putra, *Effective Coordination for Metropolitan Planning: The Case of the Jakarta Metropolitan Region*

Laksmi Kusumawati, *Foreign Direct Investment, Inclusive Growth, and Institutions in Indonesia*

Mala Sondang Silitonga, *Corruption in Indonesia: The Impact of Institutional Change, Norms, and Networks*

Kuswanto, *Inward Foreign Investment (FDI) and the Decentralized Governance System in Indonesia*

Suwatin Miharti, *Community Health Centers in Indonesia in the Era of Decentralization: The Impact of Structure, Staff Composition and Management on Health Outcomes*

Nguyen Phan Khoi, *Copyright law in Vietnam: substantive and private international law aspects.*

(Awarded best dissertation award at the University of Groningen)

Tri Efriandi, *Understanding mobility inequality: A socio-spatial approach to analyse transport and land use in Southeast Asian metropolitan cities*

Stanati Netipatalachoochote, *The Development of the Human Rights Protection System in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)*

Nguyễn Văn Quốc Thái, *Fishing for Politics? Civil Society Activism and Environmental Politicisation in Vietnam*

Titissari Rumbogo, dissertation defended March 14, 2024, Groningen, Aula.