



Asian Mayors Forum

AMF Quarterly

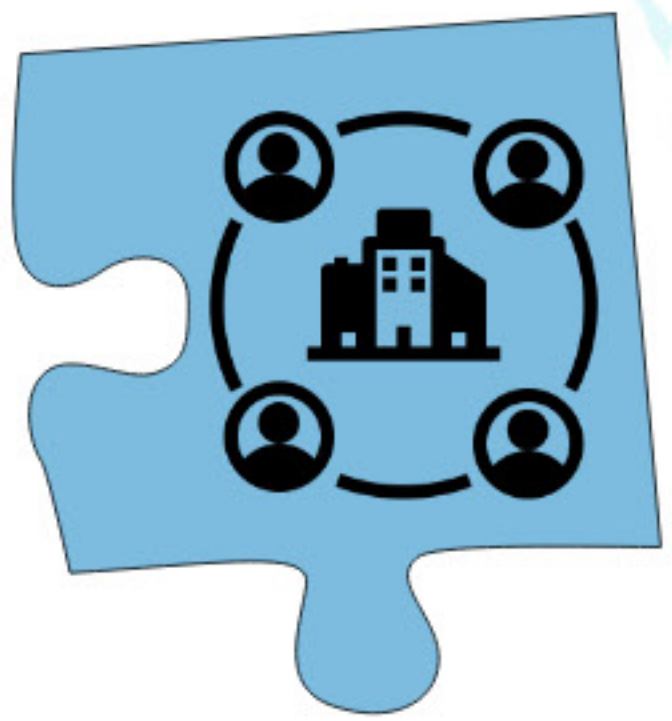
Issu No 5:
January-March 2024



International Affairs



Domestic Affairs



Member Cities



Interns



Happy Nowruz 1403

Nowruz is the commemoration of Iranian New Year and the time of return of passion and vitality, love, hope and effort to the life nature's spring.

Nowruz is the precious trust and the common spiritual and cultural heritage of human civilization left by the past generations living in the vast area of the world and we Iranians have protected this ancient and precious treasure as our lives and properties and have tried to introduce it to the world.

Nowruz is the messenger of benevolence, happiness, sympathy and coexistence for all human beings in all times and places regardless of any differences of color, language, religion, ethnicity and geography.

on behalf of Asian Mayors Forum.

I would like to congratulate you on the occasion of Eid-e Nowruz and hope for peace, happiness and prosperity in the new year of 1403.

Hamidreza Gholamzadeh
Secretary General

International Affairs



Diplomatic tree planting for peace and friendship and

welcoming Nowruz



Tehran has hosted an event on Nowruz celebrations and rituals for the foreign ambassadors.

Organized in cooperation with Asian Mayors Forum, ECO Cultural Institute and Abasabad Eco Park, "Nowruz Breeze" gathered dozens of foreign envoys and representatives of international organizations to celebrate the ancient Iranian tradition and heritage.

An exhibition on handicrafts, Nowruz tables from different regions and countries, folklore music and tree planting were the different parts of the cultural event.



Official Announcement of AMF Capitals in 2024

Shiraz (Iran), Ghobeiry (Lebanon) and Hamedan
AMF has officially announced its capital cities of environment, tourism and culture in 2024.

Shiraz (Iran), Ghobeiry (Lebanon) and Hamedan (Iran) were designated as Capitals of Environment, Culture and Tourism, respectively.

The capitals were elected after examining the proposals received from member cities. The designation certificates were officially delivered to the cities.



AMF has signed a MoU with All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), a leading organization in empowering the local urban bodies

AMF has signed a MoU with All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), a leading organization in empowering the local urban bodies. The online agreement, signed by AMF SG Hamidreza Gholamzadeh and AIILSG Deputy Director Ravi Ranjan Guru, sets the ground for cooperation in areas of mutual interest such as capacity building, research and knowledge exchange, policy development and inter-city cooperation through joint projects and programs. The aim is to enhance the efficiency of local governments in Asian countries



Meeting with President of ECO Cultural Institute



AMF SG has met with President of ECO Cultural Institute on expanding cooperation. Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh and Mr. Saad S. Khan, explored the capacities of the two organizations for joint projects and events. Introducing the AMF's new initiative "InCity" was also a topic of discussion in the meeting.

Meeting with a senior member ISOCARP

AMF SG has hosted a senior member of the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP). Mr. Hamidreza Gholamzadeh had an informal meeting with Mr. Ali Alraouf, elaborating on AMF capacities and future projects. Cooperation under the Forum's new initiative InCity was also a topic in the meeting.



Memorandum of Understanding with OANA



AMF has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Organization of Asia Pacific News Agencies (OANA). The agreement was sealed in a meeting between AMF SG Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, OANA SG Zaman Rezakhani and CEO of Islamic Republic Agency (IRNA) Ali Naderi at OANA Secretariat at IRNA. Boosting cooperation in news industry through joint projects and events such as courses and conferences as well as setting the ground for using the capacity of the member cities were some of the key articles of the MoU.

AMF Committee hosts technical webinar on earthquake

AMF Committee for Livability and Urban Resilience has held a webinar on earthquake and smartification.

Co-organized by Tehran Disaster Mitigation and Management Organization, technical meeting on "Role of Earthquake Early Warning Systems & Necessity of Intelligence in Effective Disaster Response" hosted several Iranian and fore experts and academics.

Early warning systems in medical centers, scenario-based approach to earthquake, EEW methodologies and applications, Tehran's EEW system and its challenges, and case studies on Tehran and Istanbul were the topics discussed in the session.

AMF Livability & Urban Resilience Committee Presents

Webinar

**The Role of Earthquake Early Warning Systems
& the Necessity of Intelligence in the Effective Disaster Response**

TEHRAN

Tuesday, 20th February 2024
10:00 am Tehran time (GMT+3:30)

link

Professor Antonella Peresan
A Scenario-based Approach to Earthquake and Cascading Hazards Assessment
Policy Officer for the Natural Hazards Division of the European Geosciences Union (EGU)

Professor Vladimir Kossobokov
Deadliest Earthquakes of the 21st Century
Chief Scientist, Russian Academy of Sciences, Past Vice-Chair, IUGG "GeoRisk" Commission

Dr. Ali Nasiri
Earthquake Early Warning System in Medical Centers
Faculty Member of Health in Emergencies & Disasters & Civil Defense in Bağırcilar University
Successor of Tehran Mayor & President of TDMMO
Head of Resilient and Livable Cities Committee of AMF

Mr. Abdolrahmanzadeh Abdolrahman Safarali
Welcome Rides
Deputy of Dushanbe Mayor and Deputy Chairman of the Asian Mayors Forum

Dr. Seyed Mojtaba Hosseini Gelekolai
Implementation Challenges of Tehran Earthquake Early Warning Systems
Advisor to the President of TDMMO in Earthquakes and Geological Hazards

Professor Mehdi Zare
Tehran and Istanbul, Negotiations on Active Fault Zones: How Early Warning Systems Might be Useful
Professor of Engineering Seismology
Head of Earthquake Prediction Center & Engineering Seismology Department, IIEES

Mr. Esmail Salimi (Eng.)
Introduction of Tehran Earthquake Early Warning System
Deputy of Mitigation & Disaster Risk Reduction of TDMMO

Professor Abdullah Can Zulfikar
EEW Systems: Methodologies and Applications
Assoc. Prof. (Civil & Earthquake Engineer)
Istanbul Technical University, Disaster Management Institute

AMF meeting discusses smart city ranking in Asia



Asian Mayors Forum and Tehran Municipality have hosted the first meeting of Asia Smart Cities Ranking.

The hybrid event had prominent speakers in attendance, both from Iranian and foreign organizations, including AMF, Shahr Bank ICT, Fanap, CDPI, WeGo, UNESCO, AmirKabir University, TAfta, and U4SSC.

The role of governments in smartification of cities, smart city ecosystems, importance of participation of financial and academic institutions, case studies of Turkish and Korean cities, examining the smart city evaluation index, and reviewing of best practices were among the topics of the meeting.

Ramadan Kareem to all Muslim members of great AMF family!

May the holy month inspire the pathes towards peace everywhere.
Wishing all observing it a blessed month.



Startup Weekend Announcement

The 1st Startup Weekend of Asian Cities is calling on all urban leaders and managers of the ancient continent to register their most pressing challenges for idea generation and solution making. Register and let the cities enjoy a new era of innovative management.

For further information and registration go to the link in the bio and Startup Weekend highlight.

Deadline: 31 January 2024



An amazing upcoming event of InCity Startup Weekend, the first Asian Cities Innovation Challenge, is calling for entries. It is a unique opportunity for Asian cities to investigate urban challenges and find solutions for them with the participation of citizens, startups and city managers in a creative context. After registering the urban challenges, now it is thinkers and startups' turn to take advantage of this golden opportunity and help solve these challenges by presenting their ideas, plans and products. This event can let the urban business environment improve. For more information and registration, refer to the link in bio and story.



Domestic Affairs



SG Speech at My Zahedan Conference



AMF SG has emphasized the role of urban diplomacy in sustainable development in today's world.

Speaking at "My Zahedan" Conference held on the occasion of the city's national day, Hamidreza Gholamzadeh hailed the efforts of the city's mayor and council in terms of improving its international relations, while stressing the importance of local culture and economy in this regard.

AMF and the southeastern Iranian city will hold the first startup weekend of Asian cities in April 2024.

AMF discusses cooperation with newly-joined city of Behshahr

A delegation from Asian Mayors Forum has held talks with mayor of northern Iranian city of Behshahr.

AMF SG Executive Deputy Najmeh Khatami and its Director of Members Affairs Roya Leiliayon met with Behshahr Mayor Yaser Ahmadi.

The meeting, taking place on the sidelines of the 3rd Flamingo Photography Festival in the city, discussed capacities of the city for international cooperation, particularly tourism and its role in local development.



Meeting on women and their role in the urban management



AMF has hosted a meeting on women and their role in the urban management.

Organized by AMF Network for Women, Youth and Families on the occasion of National Women's Day, the event was chaired by Advisor to Mayor of District 13 Ms. Mona Ashtiani and University lecturer Ms. Sahar Golkari Hagh.

The necessity of women's participation in different areas of urban management, their role in managing the crises, and the effective role they can play in these fields were among the topics discussed in the meeting.

Risk board game competition held at AMF

AMF has hosted the very 1st round of Risk strategic board game contest for the students.

The competition was attended by a group of students as well as interns and AMF staff and was mentored by AMF SG Hamidreza Gholamzadeh.

Risk is among the strategic games taught and played in universities across the world, engaging students in strategic thinking and development. It is recommended highly for international relations students and the related fields.



Interns



AMF inaugurates 5th Internship Program



AMF has inaugurated its 5th Internship Program with the aim of empowering the talented students and graduates in urban management.

The opening ceremony was attended by AMF Secretary General Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, who elaborated on the aims and programs of the Forum.

The event also wrapped up the 4th round, awarding the trainees with certificates.

Public Diplomacy Workshop

AMF has hosted a workshop on public diplomacy.

The workshop, chaired by AMF SG Hamidreza Gholamzadeh, was attended by interns and students of the major.

Public diplomacy development, its approaches and concepts, states' policies and case studies were among the topics of the meeting.

Nation branding was also discussed as a main topic, exploring the successful examples among the countries.



• About us

Asian Mayors Forum (AMF) is an international non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to developing friendly relations and technical, economic, and cultural cooperation between mayors and city managers in Asia. The main goal of AMF is strengthening the integration of Asian cities to have a better life for their citizens through City Diplomacy, the exchange of knowledge and experiences, and specialized cooperation. The motto of the Forum is Asia for Citizens, Integration for a Better Life. Over a decade of its activity, AMF has been influential in managing local and urban affairs in Asia. While paving the way for the exchange of information and experiences between mayors and city managers, it has held successful meetings, including six rounds of the General Assembly plus specialized conferences and nine rounds of the Executive Board meeting in Tehran, Istanbul, Bangkok, Haiku, Gaziantep and Dushanbe. As an active urban network in Asia, in line with its defined mission and tasks, AMF launches various annual programs with the participation of world-renowned specialized organizations, such as UN-Habitat, at local and international levels dedicated to cities and urban startups.



Asian Mayors Forum

AMF Quarterly

Issu No 5: January-March 2024