

## I. INTRODUCTION

This report has two main sections. It begins with brief summaries of each of the eight city reports. In each case, we present basic information on the size and growth of the city, a statement on quality of life and women's status, and a brief identification of the Specific projects examined in detail by the researchers. The second part of the report is concerned with distilling the lessons to be learned from this rich detailed description of the cities' problems and their attempts to address those problems.

Before presenting the summaries and lessons learned, it will be useful to review some of the major findings of the past surveys and in-depth study of the Asian Urban Information Center of Kobe. Those past findings played a part in the selection of both the cities for this set of studies, and the questions on which the researchers would focus.

Both surveys indicated a considerable range of problems identified by the urban administrators. They also showed clearly the impact of levels of wealth or economic development. The higher income countries, Japan, Korea and Malaysia, tended to show fewer major problems, and to have higher overall life qualities than the lower income countries, such as Pakistan, India, Indonesia and the Philippines. At the same time, for all countries there was a similar rank order for some of the problems. In almost all cases, education, health and family planning services were considered to be areas in which the greatest progress had been made. This fit will with the general observation of social and economic development in Asia over the past four decades since the end of World War II. Asian countries have made substantial progress in education and health and in promoting national family planning programs. The proportion of children in school has risen in all countries, the infant mortality rate has fallen, and life expectancy has increased. This general picture for all countries was clearly reflected in the perspectives of the individual urban administrators who completed the survey.

The major exception to the high rank ordering of health, education and family planning, was Pakistan, where administrators continued to see these as major problems. This exception in fact supports our general findings. Despite its rapid economic development, in terms of per capita GDP, Pakistan lags far behind other countries in reducing infant mortality, in educating its children, especially its girls, and in promoting family planning and reducing fertility. Pakistan is far behind India, though they both have attained the same level of GDP per capita. It is also behind Bangladesh, which shows a lower per capita GDP than Pakistan.

On the other hand, rapid urbanization and population growth is straining the physical infrastructure of all countries, except Japan. Most urban administrators saw their most serious problems to lie in transportation, sewage, water, utilities, and housing for the poor. These have not been able to grow rapidly enough to met the needs of rapid population

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1. Both surveys found that no city reports problems with housing for the wealthy or the middle class. Housing for the poor, and the homeless problems are considered serious and urgent problems everywhere except in Japan and Korea.

growth. Transportation problems arise with the rapid growth of motor vehicles. Public utilities are strained, and the demand for housing grows beyond the supply as both natural increase and urban in-migration swell the population. In all of these problems, Japan is the exception that helps to affirm the rule. Japan has long since completed the demographic transition, and less the rising age of a slowly growing population in which urban administrators fear loss of population, and look upon in-migration as a good thing. It has the wealth to deal with most of its urban problems.

Two unexpected findings emerged and have been reinforced in both surveys and the previous in-depth study. They concern problems of urban administrative size, and relations between central and local governments. Historical studies have shown that in the process, of growth cities expanded their geographic size, or the area over which they had administrative control. This was considered a necessary move for more effective urban planning. Both surveys indicated that the urban administrators often felt their cities were too small geographically, and that the boundaries should be expanded both to facilitate urban planning and to increase the revenue base of the city.

In addition, urban administrators faced serious problems in the constraints placed upon them by the central governments. The administrators expressed considerable confidence in their local staffs, and wished for greater autonomy and more resources from the central government. Many of the problems the administrators speak of are those over which they have little direct control. They often feel that they have responsibility for local conditions, but neither the authority nor the resources to discharge those responsibilities adequately. Moreover, those cities that appear to have been most successful in addressing their problems, Kobe is a notable example, attribute much of their success to having local control over resources and planning. On the other hand, as we shall see here again, one of Pusan's major problems is the lack of control over local planning and resources.