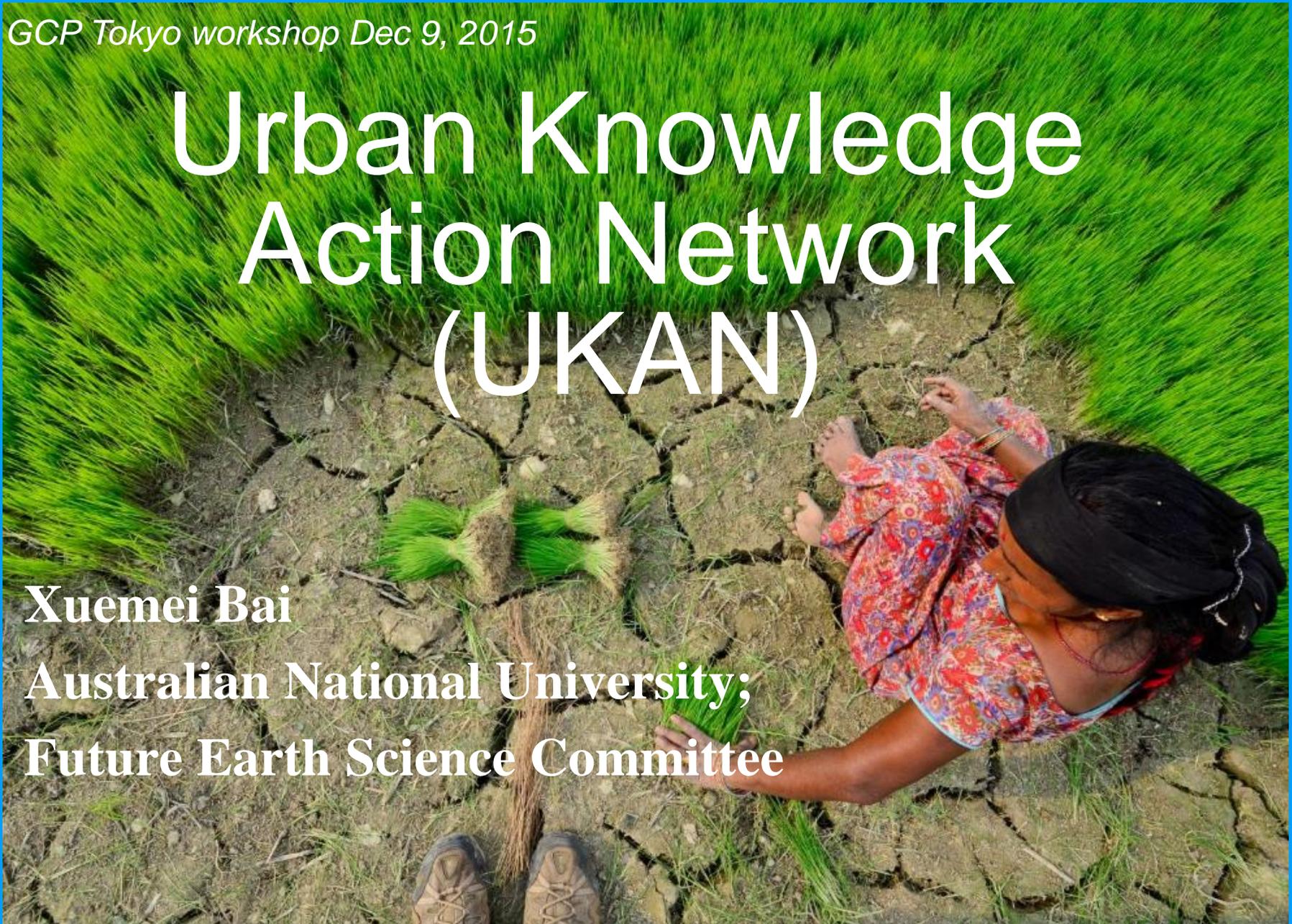


GCP Tokyo workshop Dec 9, 2015

Urban Knowledge Action Network (UKAN)

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Grand societal challenges

1. Deliver **water, energy, and food** for all, and manage the synergies and trade-offs among them.
2. **Decarbonise** socio-economic systems to stabilise the climate.
3. Safeguard the terrestrial, freshwater and marine **natural assets** underpinning human well-being.
4. **Build healthy, resilient and productive cities.**
5. Promote sustainable **rural futures** to feed rising and more affluent populations.
6. Improve human **health** in relation to GEC.
7. Encourage sustainable **consumption** and production patterns that are equitable.
8. Increase social resilience to future threats by building adaptive **governance** systems.

4. Build healthy, resilient and productive cities.

- Build healthy, resilient and productive cities by identifying and shaping innovations that combine better urban environments and lives with declining resource footprints, and provide efficient services and infrastructures that are robust to disasters.

Future Earth Urban Knowledge Action Network (UKAN)

- KANs as key research and engagement mechanism in Future Earth
- Urban one of the priority KANS within Future Earth, under development
- Integrating and building on existing activities and core projects, e.g. FTI book project, CI, UGEC, IRG, GCP
- Broader scope and stronger researcher/stakeholder involvements
- Network of networks, with common thread contributing to shared science and engagement vision
- Habitat III one of the initial focus next year
- Aims to contribute to implementation of SDG Goal 11
- Stronger Asian and African presence expected

Vision

- Global research platform and engagement network on urbanization and sustainable cities
- Key source of knowledge from integrative, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary research across natural and social sciences, engineering and humanities, practitioners and policy- and decision-makers
- Enables the transitioning towards sustainable urban futures where cities are more liveable, equitable and resilient.

Specifically, UKAN

- a) Recognizes urbanization as a transformation process that is driving and driven by interlinked and interacting social, economic and environmental processes across all scales;
- b) Understands cities as complex, evolving social-ecological-technical systems; and,
- c) Identifies and contributes to transitions towards sustainable, just and liveable urban futures worldwide in an era of profound social and environmental change.

Recent Activities

- Started discussion on funding strategy, secured initial partial funding via Japan hub, potential APN
- A workshop session at the PECs conference 2015 to further develop Dynamic Urban Regions
- International Symposium on Co-design for Urbanization in China and Asia-Pacific Region, held in Xiamen during Oct. 20-23, 2015
- Discussion with core projects, e.g. IRG, GCP and PECs, ecoSERVICES, bioGENESIS on developing working group/project initiatives contributing to UKAN
- Editors meeting in South Africa for the FTI book project, members of UGEC and beyond
- Xiamen Statement proposing an Asian branch of UKAN

Immediate Next Steps

- A scoping workshop mid of 2016, to develop a science plan/knowledge action strategic plan.
- White paper on systems approach, as input to the Habitat III preparation conference (Feb 2016)
- A science symposium at Habitat III (Oct 2016), combined with FTI and other relevant book(s) launch, subject to funding
- Organize a session focusing on urbanization and urban system risks, as part of a high level workshop on Uncertainties, Risks and Sustainability, hosted by IRG project and others
- Establish governing structure
- Develop several research proposals for targeted funders, e.g. Dynamic Urban Regions
- Work with Secretariat to coordinate a Future Earth consortium towards the EU call on urbanization

UKAN Urban Data Initiative?

- Identifying niche, starting with inventory taking
- Key features/principles, e.g. data sharing, open access etc.
- Linking to smart city initiatives, including big data, citizen science (e.g. hand device measuring air pollution)
- Seed initiative(s)?
- Key collaborators/partner?
- Supporting/supported by research projects under UKAN, but via what mechanism