



***2020 Internal Journal of GIUI in Q1
(January 2020 - March 2020)***

Published by: Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation (GIUI)

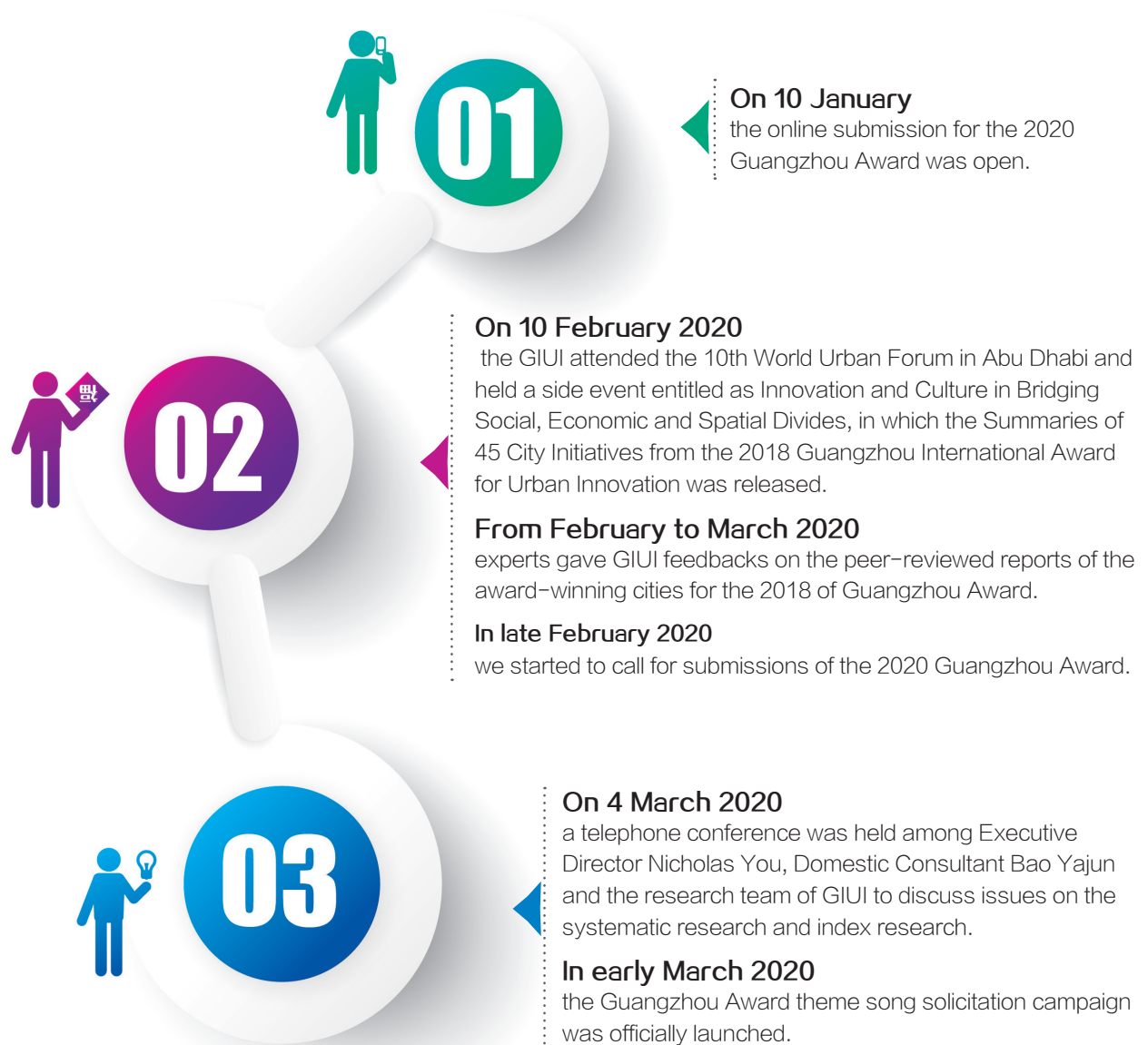


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I. Updates & Events

Highlights of major activities

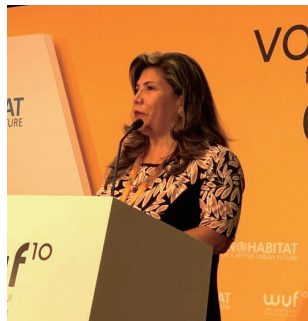


Activities Highlight

[Editor's Note]

The Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF 10) was held from 8th–13th February, 2020 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Co-organized by the UCLG Community on Urban Innovation, the Metropolis Regional Secretariat for ASPAC, the Southern Finance Omnimedia Corp. and the Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation, this event focused on “Innovation and Culture in Bridging Social, Economic and Spatial Divides” .

Nicholas You, the Executive Director of the GIUI also co-chaired a panel devoted to the memory of Mr. Neal Pearce, a renowned journalist who devoted his career to reporting on city issues. Mr. Pearce also served as a Technical Committee member for the 2nd cycle of the Guangzhou Award. Mr. You also provided concluding remarks for a special session devoted to the New Urban Agenda platform.



During the forum, on 10 February, the Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation hosted a Voices from Cities workshop, where city representatives from previous Guangzhou Award cycles presented how their city initiatives involving innovation and culture are creating more livable, sustainable and inclusive communities for their respective inhabitants.



II. Research & Communication

5 reports



[Editor's Note]

Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation is aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, namely the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. Urban innovation, in the context of the Award, consists of new policies, new strategies, new business models, new partnerships, new governance systems, and the use of new technologies. Together with its co-sponsors, UCLG and Metropolis, the purpose of the Award is to support city-to-city cooperation and peer learning. The 4th cycle of the Award solicited 313 submissions from 70 countries. 15 of them were chosen as shortlisted initiatives and the Jury decided on 5 award-winning initiatives. In this year, we invited experts to make peer-review reports on all the 15 shortlisted initiatives to learn about innovative urban management practices and promote exchanges. Here in this 2020 Internal Journal of GIUI in Q1, we are going to present five of them.

【Indonesia Surabaya】

Public Participation in Waste Management in Surabaya, Indonesia



Surabaya is the second-largest city and the second-largest seaport in Indonesia, as well as the capital of East Java Province. Over time, this densely populated city has produced more and more solid waste, placing a great burden on its ecological environment. To address this problem, the municipal government launched a program and campaign on public participation in waste management. The campaign is known as the 3R campaign for Reduce, Re-use and Recycle. The project actively uses a combination of low-technologies

and world-leading technologies to create an economically feasible waste management, monitoring and reporting system. At the international level, it was nominated for the 2018 Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize and was the winner of "The Online Popular City" in the 2018 Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation.

Background

Like many other Indonesian cities, Surabaya also faces great pressure resulting from its highly dense population. In 2001, the

solid waste piles in Benowo and Keputih landfills in the urban area of Surabaya reached a record high, with an average of 2,000 tons per day. Due to the strong opposition from the local residents, the Keputih landfill had to be closed, causing a problem that urban solid waste could only be randomly piled up in the streets without effective collection or disposal.

Implementation

Against this background, the local municipal government began a community-based solid waste management initiative based on the principle of 3Rs (Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling). The local government set up composting centers and temporary dumps and launched a garbage collection bank program.

In its environmental protection plan, the Surabaya municipal government cooperates with non-governmental organizations and

appeals to corporate social responsibility initiatives of the private sector. The campaign started off with urban villages and initially introduced environmental-friendly waste disposal methods using readily available technologies. These methods include classifying waste based on the 3R principle, turning waste into compost and energy to power the treatment, and carrying out urban agriculture and waste treatment.

At the household level, the waste is transported from each household to a transfer station; at the municipal level, the waste is then moved from the transfer station to the terminal treatment station with the need to charge the public certain fees.

Public funds are used only for the disposal of major urban wastes. Local environmental protection, execution of the 3R principle, as well as the collection and sale of waste plastics are implemented by the communities and the private sector. Since the economic value of waste was recognized, waste stations have been set up in surrounding communities and public and private institutions. These waste stations are mainly engaged in the sale of inorganic waste, which can be used as raw materials for hats, bags, and handicrafts, etc..

Results

There are three major changes after the

implementation of the initiative. First, there is a steady increase in public participation – the number of environmental protection cadres in 2015 was 30,240, up 728 from 2014; there were 296 waste stations in normal operation in 2017, representing an additional 76 from 2016, and 15,719 users. Second, the practice itself has become mature through the process from simple collection to organized management and the joint efforts with the private sector. This is reflected in the increase in the average annual income of waste stations from IDR 350,000 to IDR 5 million. Third, measures have been taken to prevent the landfill waste from overflowing (1.571 tons in 2016, up only 6.3% since 2015). More significantly, the implementation of the 3R principle has improved the quality of life through a clean and healthy lifestyle, including improved air quality index.



SDGs addressed:

- 3. Good Health and well-being
- 9. Industry, innovation and industry
- 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities – especially on environmental impact of cities; and risk reduction; as well as many aspects of other MDGs
- 17. Partnership for the goals

【 Salvador, Brazil 】

Environment recovery



NO.1 Caravana da Mata Atlântica

Salvador, a coastal city in the northeast of Brazil, is the capital of the Brazilian state of Bahia. Over the past 10 years, with agricultural development and urban expansion, an average of 5000 hectares of forest nation-wide has been destroyed every year, thus seriously threatening biodiversity in Brazil. Moreover, climate change has exacerbated the loss of plant species diversity. The two initiatives from the city of Salvador address the issue of environmental degradation caused by unregulated urbanization which, in turn, negatively impacts the city and its residents.

Background.

Salvador used to have all of its territory covered with the Mata **Atlântica**, which is considered one of the five most important biodiversity hotspots on the planet and serves as a carbon sink of global importance. Nowadays Salvador has very few significant areas

of the forest remaining. Most of the areas with few or no green spaces and trees are usually inhabited by poorer and vulnerable communities, reinforcing the spatial inequality in the city. Such neighbourhoods are exposed to warmer temperatures due to heat islands, more polluted air and less natural space for leisure. In order to reverse this scenario the “Caravana da Mata **Atlântica**” was created.

Implementation

Caravana da Mata **Atlântica** aims firstly at increasing green spaces in the city by planting and distributing indigenous seedlings in schools, parks, and squares as well as creating ecological corridors. The goal for the city is to plant 100,000 trees and to renew the plants and trees in 56 Km of street and 260 public spaces, as well as to create seven new parks by 2020. Secondly the re-greening campaign is accompanied by environmental

education initiatives, for children and adults, in order to achieve a more sustainable lifestyle, by 2049.

Results

The changes have been mostly local, at the municipal level. In these past 5.5 years of programme, the Caravana da Mata **Atlântica** planted 52,520 trees and re-afforested 77 kilometres of streets and avenues and planted 385 trees in avenues and sidewalks around the city. It also produced eight urban food gardens, two orchards and five school

food gardens. It also distributed 8,000 tree seedlings from Mata **Atlântica** to citizens for planting in their neighbourhoods.

This initiative has also been encouraging citizens to plant and preserve the environment and raising awareness of the importance of the environment with initiatives such as the distribution of the Comic Book “Sustainable Group” . In addition, the program will increase the environmental equity between richer and poorer areas of the city, improve air quality and reduce the heat sink effect of those areas.

NO.2 Canabrava Park Restoration

The Canabrava Park restoration project is an innovative practice initiated by the Sustainable City and Innovation Department of Salvador under the Atlantic Forest Protection and Restoration Framework. A large number of young people participating in this park restoration are from marginalized communities which have been the most seriously affected by deforestation. The young people have planted 20,000 native trees in Canabrava Park in three stages, attempting to reverse the negative impact of urban development through a comprehensive reforestation campaign also aimed at improving public space and raising public awareness of environmental protection.

Canabrava Park, which covers an area of 52,000 square meters, was a landfill for the city from the 1970s to the end of 1990s. During these 20 years, a large amount of carbon dioxide and methane gas were emitted in Canabrava. In addition, Brazil in general, is faced with many problems in the process of urban development, one of which is the large gap between the rich and the poor and the resulting social inequality. In Salvador, most poor and vulnerable groups are concentrated in areas affected by harsh climate or environment, such as heat island effect, air pollution and frequent floods caused by heavy rainfall and poor drainage. There are not enough trees and green space around communities and there are no places for recreation.

Background

Canabrava, which covers an area of 52,000 square

Implementation

Initiated by the Sustainable City and Innovation

Department of Salvador, the Canabrava Park restoration initiative started in 2015. Private enterprises and community members jointly participated in this endeavor. As a waste disposal technology provider, Odebrecht Ambiental was responsible for converting urban sludge and solid waste from industrial effluent treatment plants into plant fertilizer through anaerobic fermentation. Bahia Association of Forest Based Companies and Paper, Pulp, Cardboard, Wood Pulp and Paper and Cardboard Artefacts Industries Trade Union of Bahia provided 10,000 tree saplings for the reforestation exercise. Jorge Amado University Center, Revita Business and members of some neighboring communities participated in planting the saplings.

Results

The restoration of Canabrava Park has successfully changed a dilapidated landfill into a green place for citizens' recreational activities. This has made Salvador a model and pioneer in Brazil's urban environmental restoration and a leader in the fight against climate change. In addition, this initiative has improved the international status of Salvador in sustainable development as well as its international

prestige in the C40 Forum and other international organizations.

SDGs addressed

Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all;

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Target 4: Safeguard cultural and natural heritage

Target 6: Improve air quality and manage municipal and other wastes

Target 7: Universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible green and public spaces, in particular of women, children older persons and persons with disabilities

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Goal 15: Life on Land – protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.



【 Utrecht, Netherlands 】 ↗

Localizing the SDGs through multi-stakeholder partnerships, Utrecht, Netherlands

Situated in the centre of the Netherlands, 35 kilometres from Amsterdam, Utrecht is the fourth largest city in the Netherlands, and also one of the most multi-cultural. Utrecht is also one of Holland's greenest cities with an estimated one tree for every inhabitant, criss-crossed by canals and a beautiful medieval centre.

Background

The municipality found in the SDGs an opportunity to take advantage of a global agenda to make its own city cleaner, greener and healthier, whilst also maintaining an internationalist approach to its own urbanization challenges.

Implementation

When, in 2015 the United Nations adopted 17 global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) an international blueprint to achieve a more sustainable future by the year 2030, Utrecht seized on the opportunity to incorporate the goals into its own urban planning strategy for the rapidly expanding metropolis and declared Utrecht a “Global Goals City” in April 2016. The idea was to use the targets set by the UN to serve as a sustainability focus for local development and also as a means to connect local initiatives with international development in the global south.

The Utrecht municipality saw its role as translator of a complex abstract framework into a practical



strategy that would actually change the lifestyle choices, behaviour and consumption patterns of a wide range of stakeholders. In order to see if the strategy works, the municipality is also developing local SDG indicators to measure and track its own SDG performance.

Regarding the challenge of mainstreaming the UN SDGs, the first step was to understand which existing municipal policies were already aligned to the goals, starting with procurement. Then began the enormous task of looking at all the other policies on every single topic that council has in place and finding out what already existed where there was a connection to the SDGs, creating a dashboard and analysing where the city was doing well and the areas where there was room for improvement.

Result

The municipality developed an interactive tool – the Global Goals Dashboard – to present local SDG-related data in a user-friendly way. This tool enables

the user to make connections between various data points and policy areas, and by establishing a baseline, to see where progress is being made. This tool gives municipal employees a clearer view of how their own work relates to the SDGs, and how the SDGs link their work to that of their colleagues. Its purpose is to challenge the siloed model of policy- and decision-making by offering an integrated framework through which to view and implement Utrecht's strategies and activities. Connected to this is the challenge to develop new working methods to enable different municipal departments to collaborate effectively on intersectional issues such as climate change and social inclusion.

The other target group for the dashboard are the people who live and work in the city. The idea here is to provide an accessible, transparent, and interactive tool that motivates people to be informed about the SDGs and Utrecht's progress on achieving them, and also to think about how they can contribute. Utrecht already publishes several monitors annually or bi-annually, ranging from a Public Health Monitor to a Sustainability Report, to inform stakeholders about what is happening in these areas. Compared to these monitors, which are static, often backward-looking documents, it was important that the dashboard be a living, interactive tool that stimulates stakeholder participation as much as possible.

SDGs addressed:

Goal 1: End poverty in all of its forms

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions for all

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

【 Wuhan, China 】 ↙

Rebirth of Urban Waste Landfill

Wuhan is the largest city in central China. In recent years, due to the continuous increase of the urban population and the improvement of people's incomes and standard of living, a corresponding increase in urban garbage has resulted in most of the waste treatment plants in Wuhan running at high loads and a continuous deterioration of the urban environment. The now abandoned Jinkou landfill site was once the largest urban domestic waste landfill site in Wuhan and one of the largest in Asia. Eventually, thanks to the international garden fair, Jinkou garbage dump turned into the most charming ecological landmark of Wuhan, and also became a demonstration site on an innovative way to solve the problem of closed waste dumps.

Background

Wuhan Jinkou Landfill Site is located on the outskirts of Jinkou Zhanggong Dike in the northwest suburb of Hankou. On 1 July 2005 the largest landfill site in Wuhan was decommissioned early due to complaints from residents around the city. However, although the management department had sealed up the landfill, the negative effect of the landfill on the environment had not been eliminated. The waste gas, waste water and waste residue produced by the landfill, continuously polluted the air, soil and groundwater, and caused secondary pollution to the surrounding environment.

Implementation

The overall planning, direction and coordination of the project was shared by the National Housing and Construction Department, Hubei Provincial People's Government, Wuhan Municipal People's Government and Wuhan City Garden and Forestry Bureau;

Funding came from several partners with a total investment of RMB 4.75 billion (approximately USD 670 million), of which 25% was direct investment from the Wuhan Municipal government, and 75 % financed by Wuhan Landscape Construction Development Company Limited. At the project management level, the participants included engineering, design and other relevant experts from 82 Chinese cities and 12 foreign countries. There were more than 100 construction teams working on more than 100 types of large and small projects in parallel. The government



of Wuhan took the lead role for overall coordination and planning.

At the technical level, this initiative was led by Tsinghua University especially with regards to the use of aerobic ecological remediation technology. This technology has four advantages, such as the rapid degradation of organic waste, no secondary pollution, low greenhouse effect and low cost of leachate treatment.

To encourage citizens' participation, the city government carried out the "My Garden My Home" activities, and combined special interest groups and other municipal departments to organize into the special units and participated in regular meetings and thematic symposia to help raise awareness of the issues, stimulate public discussions and debate and engage the inhabitants of the city, especially at the district levels.

At the national and international level, the Yangtze River Civilization Museum in 2016 launched the "River Dialogue" international forum. The purpose of forum was to provide a platform for learning and exchange between the world's great river basins and to take advantage of the convergence of the latest development experience in watershed management and nature-based solutions.

Result

After 12 months of full load aerobic operation, all indicators regarding the Jinkou landfill met the national standards stipulated in "Technical Requirements for Stabilizing Site of Domestic Landfill".

This initiative not only completed the landmark achievements such as ecological restoration of Jinkou landfill site and the establishment of an ecological

"bridge" linking several different parks, gardens and water bodies ,it also established the international garden art centre, the Yangtze River Civilization Museum, and constructed 117 exhibition gardens with remarkable ecological benefits. The ecological bridge consists of a remediated dyke and reservoir, renewing and linking ten previously independent gardens, and a green "corridor" from North to South totaling 50.5 km in length, with an average width of 3.1 kilometres representing 170 square kilometres of ecological parks and gardens.

At the same time, a complementary initiative around the park saw the realisation of 19 new roads, 2 bus stops, more than 20 bus lines, two subway lines and other infrastructure. The multiple improvements have brought business opportunities, boosted local employment and raised the real estate value in the previously negatively affected neighbourhoods.



SDGs addressed:

Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Target 3: Participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management

Target 6: Improve air quality and manage municipal and other wastes

【 Santa Fe, Argentina 】 ↗

Western Urban Natural Reserve: embracing the hydro-climatic risks, Santa Fe, Argentina

The city of Santa Fe is situated in north-eastern Argentina, near the junction of the Parana and Salado rivers. After two major disasters, namely the overflow of the Salado River in 2003 and the heavy rains that caused widespread flooding in 2007, Santa Fe adopted Disaster Risk Reduction as a core policy and an integral component of the city's development plan. The Western Urban Natural Reserve (WUNR) is an innovative initiative incorporated in the current development plan, and co-financed by the French Global Environment Facility.

Background

The geographic location of the city of Santa Fe defines its character and development context. The city is located in the flood valleys of two rivers Parana and Salado – with their cycles of rain and floods. In this context, the western neighbourhoods face a double vulnerability. People in low-lying areas next to the Salado River have a higher flood risk. In addition, because the city grew westward without an orderly urban planning policy, the neighbourhoods are mostly slums, with precarious houses and no access to basic public service. Unemployment is high and 350–400 slum dwellers work in informal waste collection and urban animal husbandry.



Implementation

This initiative has a planned duration of 48 months during which it should:

- ☆ Create the Western Urban Natural Reserve (WUNR) through: physical boundaries legal definition and formalization of a western urban limit. This should be supported by the generation of new urban land for the relocation of families in flood risk areas, construction of an access square (?) and an administrative building to receive visitors as well as the establishment of a nursery of native plants for environmental restoration.

- ☆ Reduce flood risk through the deepening of reservoirs, the development and nurturing of a local risk management culture and the construction of a “Flood Memorial” . (explain)

- ☆ Promote the socioeconomic development of informal waste workers, planting of urban orchards and other sustainable work initiatives.

Results

At the local level, the following planned outcomes have been realized:

- ☆ Delimitation of the WUNR and formalization of a western urban front and generation of new urban land: Up to now, 250 meters of street and 29 plots (first stage) have been created. In the near future 700 meters of street and 70 plots will be completed (second stage).

- ☆ Re-housing families in informal settlement: From 90 families living in the zone more than 30 have been relocated into safe areas and the exercise is ongoing;

- ☆ Building 2,700 square meters of access squares, a nursery and an administration building by the year 2019; Reducing flood risk: 43,000 square meters have been excavated to deepen the reservoirs.

- ☆ Developing a local flood risk culture: the city has published two short books titled “The city and

the river” and “Live with the River” , and a “Flood Memorial” will be built.

- ☆ Socio-economic development: Of 171 families living from the informal collection of waste, 106 already have healthier and more sustainable work.



SDGs addressed

SDG11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.



III.Outcomes of our work from January to March in 2020



