

## 8th Asian Townscape Awards Ceremony was held in Yinchuan, China

Yinchuan, China, 28 September 2017 – The 8<sup>th</sup> Asian Townscape Awards (ATA) Ceremony was held in Yinchuan, China on 28 September. The Awards were established in 2010 as an initiative toward the goal of "materializing a living environment that is happy and fulfilling to the people of Asia", by co-hosting 4 organizations; UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Fukuoka Urban Research Centre, Asian Habitat Society and Asia Townscape Design Society.



Surat, India at the ceremony



Presentation of Pune, India

In the past 7 years, a total of 79 projects from 12 countries have been awarded. This year, 53 projects from 8 countries applied to the ATA and 15 of them received the awards. From South East Asian region, 4 projects from India, Indonesia and Vietnam were awarded.

Since 2016, the ATA ceremony was hosted by Yinchuan City, China which has received the awards twice in 2014 and 2016. In the

ceremony's opening remark, Mr. Koresawa, the director of UN-Habitat mentioned that "good townscape is not merely the beauty of buildings or streets. It should respect indigenous culture and history, indigenous tradition and way of life, enhance people's sense of belonging and



Mr. Koresawa made a speech in the ATA ceremony

livability, improve cities' attractiveness and competitiveness. Moreover, resilience and safety are becoming eminent features of townscape especially in the disaster-prone Asia. All these factors are prerequisites for sustainable urbanization".



Panel of Banjarmasin, Indonesia

Besides this year's awarded projects' presentation, a representative from the past winners showed his city's progress after the award. This ceremony was not only a networking event among winners but also a good opportunity to learn from the past and other projects at each other.



Art Project in Tam Ky, Vietnam

The panels of awarded projects were displayed at the city center shopping mall, so that Yinchuan citizens could easily access to the awarded projects.

The next year's application call is expected to start from April, 2018. If you were interested in the ATA, please visit our website or ATA secretariats website (http://urc.or.jp/ata\_english?lang=en) for further information. We are looking forward to your entry next year.

