

Giving cities the means to fully play their role in the
face of major global challenges

A common ambition

AIMF Cities Network of South-East Asia



AIMF-European Union
Strategic Partnership



Financially supported by the
European Union



Annual meeting

Thursday, May 18th, Fairfield Hotel, Phnom Penh
8h – 12h



Introduction

Mme Arianna Ardesi

Advisor,

Deputy AIMF Permanent Secretary for cooperation programs

Welcome words

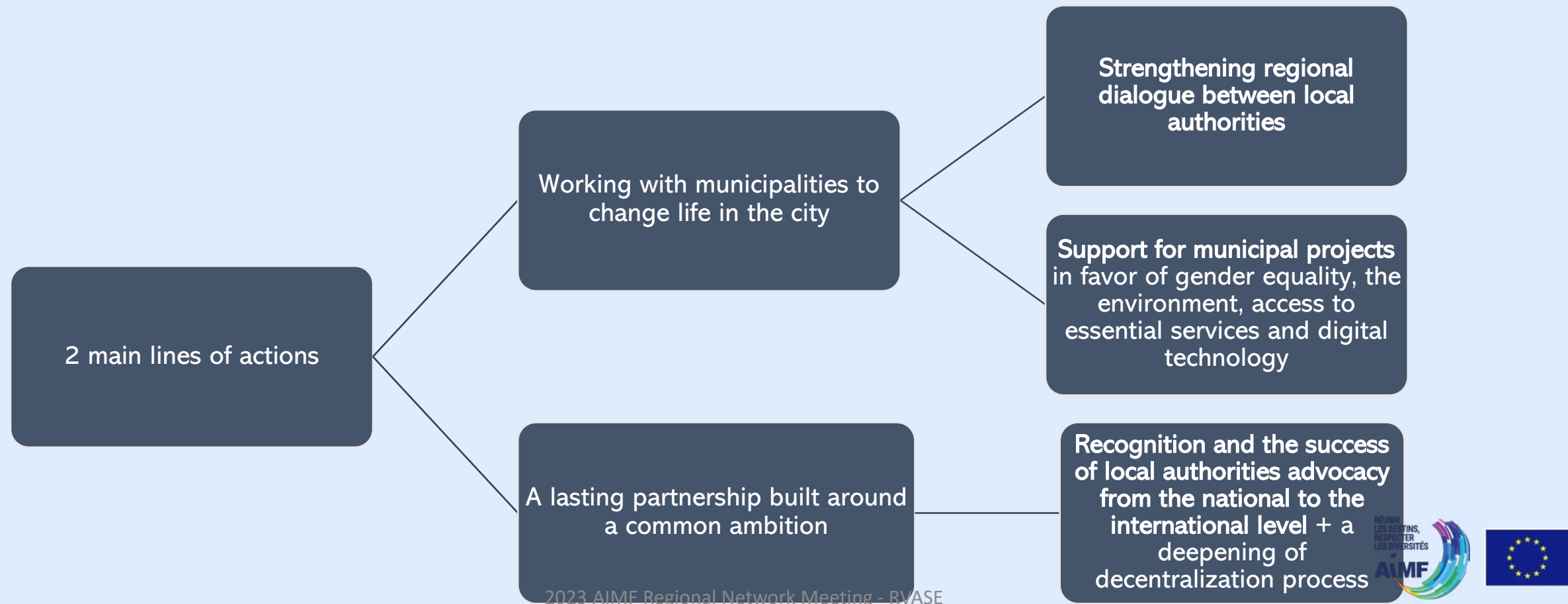
His Excellency Khuong Sreng
Governor of Phnom Penh

Session 1:

Network work themes and modalities

Brief presentation of the AIMF - European Union Strategic Partnership

Since 2015, the European Union and the International Association of Francophone Mayors have engaged in a Strategic Partnership that **aims to strengthen local authorities as key actors in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.**



Five regional network for increased proximity

Maghreb

Western Africa

Great lakes region

Indian Ocean



Strategic partnership framework between the EU and the AIMF for the support to local authorities.

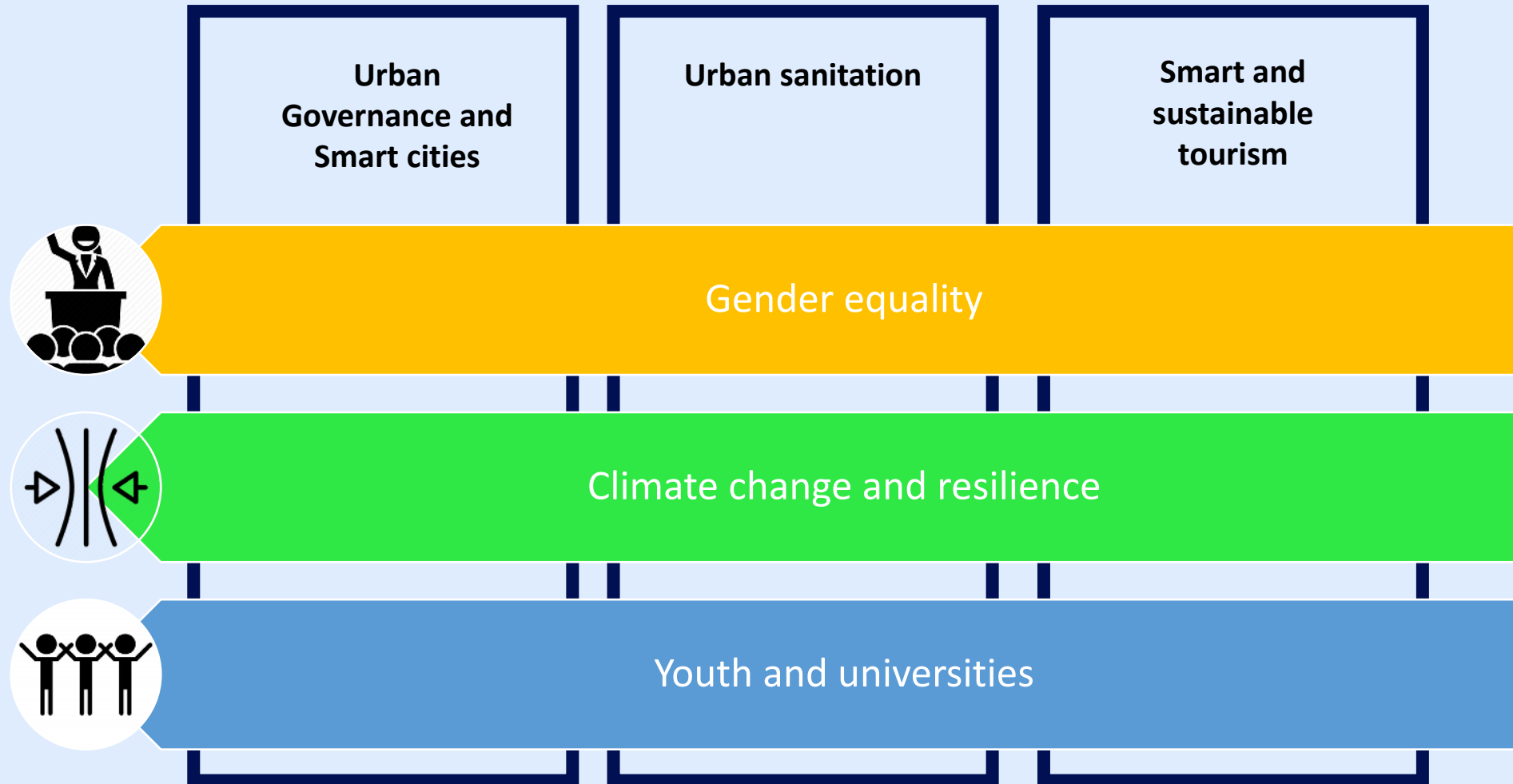
South-East Asia

Local authorities have a major role to play in addressing the major environmental, economic and social challenges of our time. **65% of the 169 targets of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals defined by the UN can only be achieved through the involvement of local authorities.**

2023 AIMF Regional Network Meeting - RVASE



Work themes



Work themes

Urban Governance and Smart cities

- **Phnom Penh** Smart City Hub (2023/2025)

Urban sanitation

- **Phnom Penh** FSM project
- **Siem Reap** FSM project
- **Vientiane** FSM project
- **Hué** FSM project

Smart and sustainable tourism

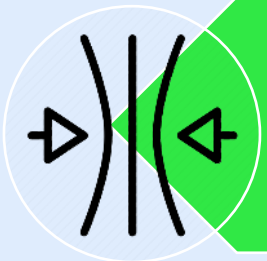
- Currently no project identified.

Work themes



Gender equality

- Capacity building for women in local government: proposed by the City of Can Tho, under discussion.
- Supporting local governments in Cambodia to combat violence against women and children: proposed by ASAC, under discussion.



Climate change and resilience

- Access to drinking water: construction of a self-sufficient drinking water network around the village of Kokvan, **Luang Prabang**.
- EMR2: Emergency preparedness: **Phnom Penh**, two additional Cambodian cities (selected by NCDM), and **ASAC**.



Youth and universities

- CALU project (Cooperation between Local Authorities and Universities): **Multi-city and multi-actor**, under discussion.

Modalités de travail

Exchange of experiences and advocacy

- ⇒ Study tours
- ⇒ Working groups
- ⇒ Sharing of working documents (e.g. AIMF working platform)
- ⇒ Multi-stakeholder dialogue
- ⇒ Coordination with all regional networks

Training

- ⇒ Peer exchange
- ⇒ Distance learning (tutoring)
- ⇒ Collaboration with universities

Concrete projects

- ⇒ Monitoring of funding opportunities
- ⇒ Support for the development of local and regional projects
- ⇒ Project follow-up

Annual meetings of the global and regional networks

AIMF Annual Congress

Date: 23 october 2023

Place: Cotonou, Benin

Annual meeting of the Regional Network

Date: 2024

Place: TBD

2023 Annual Action Plan



Strengthening regional
dialogue between local
authorities

Support for municipal
projects in favor of gender
equality, the environment,
access to essential services
and digital technology

Recognition and the success
of local authorities advocacy
from the national to the
international level + a
deepening of
decentralization process

2023 Action Plan: 15 actions organized around three axes
Roadmap 2025: thematic action plan for 2025

Facilitate regional dialogue between local authorities and stakeholders

	Activities	Achieved	Planned	Suggestions
1	Making contact with member cities and their focal points; confirming needs.	Cambodia: ASAC, Kampot, Phnom Penh. Laos: Luang Prabang, Vientiane. Vietnam: Hue, Can Tho, Hai Phong.	Ongoing dialogue.	Formal appointment of a focal point within the other members of the network to create a regular and more in-depth dialogue.
2	Identification and contact with actors supporting decentralization, francophonie and urban development in SEA, in relation to the pre-identified work themes.	Contact and dialogue with: UCLG-ASPAC, AMF Secretariat; The AUF in Cambodia, and Asia region office; The French Embassy in Cambodia; Several decentralized cooperation partners (Paris Ile de France, Val de Marne, SIAAP); University actors in Cambodia: URBA & URPP. The Vietnamese Association of Cities.	AUF Laos AFD Cambodia Ambassies of France in Laos and Vietnam	Continue to establish relationships with actors of cooperation and sustainable urbanism in Southeast Asia.
3	Elaboration of the 2023 / 2024 Action Plan, including a series of concrete actions (projects), training actions and experience sharing (training and workshops).	First draft of the action plan prepared, for discussion and completion at the annual meeting of the South East Asian Cities Network in May 2023.	Completion following the Annual Meeting	Sharing for validation to all AIMF members in Southeast Asia.
4	Preparation and holding of the annual network meeting (program, provisional budget, logistics, partners, etc.)	Annual meeting of the network organized.	Under way !	Decision to be made by the time of the AIMF GA on the location of the RVASE annual meeting in 2024.
5	Participation in Francophonie and urban development events in the region in order to bring the voices of member cities (advocacy in favor of sub-national authorities) and feed the global advocacy strategy of the AIMF	Participation in the presentation of the CWIS in Phnom Penh, funded by ADB (December 2022) Participation in the General Assembly of the Francophonie in Cambodia (March 2023)	Identify relevant events and participate when possible.	
6	Multicountry dialogue	Organization of the Thematic Conference on Faecal Sludge Management (March to May 2023)	FSM thematique conference (mai 2023)	Organize annual thematic conferences, on themes selected by the RVASE members.
7	National Dialogue and Advocacy		National dialogues planned within the framework of concrete projects; Advocacy activities planned following the adoption of an advocacy document by the network.	  Avec le soutien financier de la Commission Européenne

Supporting local project ownership

	Activities	Achieved	Planned	Suggestions
8	Diagnosis of training needs, exchange of experiences and studies	Drafted during the contacts with the members	Finalization of the training project for women in the public service & implementation.	Conduct an in-depth needs assessment on a theme selected by the members
9	Elaboration of a budgeted annual program of trainings and workshops (integrated in the 2023/2024 action plan)			Development of a first workshop program following the annual meeting
10	Carrying out training according to identified needs			
11	Support for the execution of studies	Development of the CALU project in order to allow the realization of small territorialized studies within the framework of the project	Identify and secure the necessary financing for the project	
12	Organization of workshops and exchanges of experience	Organization of the Thematic Conference on Faecal Sludge Management (March to May 2023)		

Support the design, implementation and financing of local and regional projects

	Activities	Achieved	Planned	Suggestions
13	Technical assistance in the design and monitoring of LA projects: Accompanying the cities in the identification and design of projects; Accompanying the stages of validation of the project with the headquarters.	Setting up and validation of two concrete projects for Luang Prabang and Phnom Penh. Two multi-city projects are being developed (CALU and women in the civil service).		
14	Accompaniment in the implementation of pilot projects in local ownership and in connection with the actors of the territory: Elaboration / feasibility of the projects; Launching of the projects; Strategy of research of financing; Follow-up of the projects.	Evaluation of the feasibility of projects and search for funding.	Upcoming launch of the two concrete projects validated at the April 2022 office	
15	Support for the expansion of financial and technical partnerships: Establishment of relationships with other donors, creation of synergies; Accompaniment and implementation of sub-regional multi-country projects for the financing of a project by international cooperation donors.	Identification and contact with potential donors (AUF, French Embassies, ...)	Follow-up and development of contacts	

Break

15 minutes

Session 2:

Round table: suggestions and expectations of network members

Goal of the round table

2025 Road Map

2023 Action Plan

FSM thematic action plan (2023-2025)

Smart Cities thematic action plan (2024-2025)

Sustainable tourism action plan
(2025)

AIMF regional network members share thoughts – photos



His Excellency SUI Seret, Vice Governor of Phnom Penh



His Excellency CHHAY Matinal, Vice Governor of Battambang Province

2023 AIMF Regional Network Meeting - RVASE



His Excellency SAEM Nhav, President of the Provincial Council of Kampot Province

AIMF regional network members share thoughts – photos



Left: His Excellency BANNAVONG Phoukhong, Vice Governor of Vientiane Capitale



Right: His Excellency HATSACHANH Viengthong, Mayor-Governor of the city of Luang Prabang

AIMF regional network members share thoughts – photos



M. NGUYỄN THẾ PHƯỚC Phó Chủ tịch
Thuởng trư'c, Vice President of the
People's Committee of Yen Bai Province



Ms NGUYEN THI Thanh My, Deputy
Director of the Department of Natural
Resources and Environment, Ho Chi
Minh City



M. TRAN Song, Vice President of
the People's Committee of the city
of Hue

Conclusions

Summary of discussions and
proposal of a work schedule

Network functioning (1/2)

- The Network operates on an informal basis, with no presidency or specific roles. AIMF members are automatically members of the Southeast Asian Regional Network (RVASE). When possible, network activities are open to a wider audience, and non-member cities and/or provinces are invited to participate.
- Local governments and associations wishing to join the AIMF are also invited to participate, and discussions are held to integrate them.
- A wish was expressed for more cities to join the network, particularly cities from Laos. The importance of including associations representing local governments and administrations in our work was also stressed. ASAC, in Cambodia, is already active and will be participating in the implementation of a project on emergency preparedness in Cambodia, contributing to the dissemination of best practices to all Cambodian local authorities.
- In order to be included in the activities, members must be up to date with their AIMF membership fees.
- Members can offer to host future events: 2024 and 2025 annual meetings.

Network functioning (2/2)

- Members expressed their support for Hué's bid to host the next AIMF General Assembly to the vice-chairman of the city's People's Committee, who was present at the meeting. If the bid is successful, a specific activity could be organized on this occasion for members of the regional network.
- Vientiane will host the next ASEAN Summit in 2024, as well as the ASEAN Mayors and Governors Forum. During a meeting with AIMF Permanent Secretary Pierre Baillet on May 16, 2023, the Governor of Vientiane expressed the wish that AIMF could support the organization of the event. The modalities for mobilizing the RVASE will be explored.

Network Road Map (1/3)

1. The proposed work themes are agreed and validated.

The work themes are: urban governance and smart cities, urban sanitation, intelligent and sustainable tourism. The cross-cutting themes proposed and also validated are: gender equality, climate change and resilience, youth inclusion and university cooperation.

It was pointed out that the smart city theme is linked to tourism and economic development, and that heritage is also linked to economic development and tourism.

The suggestion to add support for the use of the French language is included in the cross-cutting themes.

2. **The thematic approach to structuring the network's work over the next three years is validated:**

three thematic action plans (urban sanitation, smart cities and sustainable tourism) will be gradually developed and submitted for validation by all RVASE members. The first action plan on sanitation builds from the recommendations of the study trip and FSM conference which took place in Cambodia (18-20 may 2023).

3. **By mid-June, each member officially confirms its focal point, who will communicate and support the regional office with sharing information and updates and help identify the right people to exchange with on the selected work topics.**

Network Road Map (2/3)

4) Development of regional partnerships and synergies:

- ASEAN Mayors' and Governors' Forum: Building on the forthcoming Summit in Vientiane, the regional network will consolidate its visibility and contributions during at meetings of the mayors' network. A framework agreement will be sought with UCLG-ASPAC.
- FSM theme: initiate dialogue with the Asian Development Bank of Cambodia, and/or its regional office, as they are interested in the GBV theme via the CWIS program. Present the network's activities and raise awareness of this theme with other cities and provinces in the region via the recommendations made at the FSM conference and thanks to the case studies of the FSM projects underway among AIMF member cities and provinces.
- ASEAN Smart Cities Network: via PPCA, make contact this network to find out about its activities and assess possible synergies.
- Meet the EU delegations in the three countries and the EU office in Bangkok in charge of the sub-regional approach: send introductory letters, make contact and assess the interests of each DUE in the network's work themes.
- UN-ESCAP (regional office of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific): make contact and exchange on smart cities (especially their support for Cambodia's MISTI ministry in drawing up their 2035 strategy).

=> The network's identity is confirmed through a constitutive document (presentation of the network, inclusion in the general framework of the AIMF network, values) submitted to RVASE members in order to create visibility with regional stakeholders.

Network Road Map (3/3)

- 5) Identify relevant events where the network could be present; **exchange regularly on events and relevant documentation**: set up a monthly meeting between RVASE and the focal points to discuss events and news. Set up a shared calendar (AIMF platform or Google Cal). Use the AIMF exchange platform to share and archive relevant documents.

- 6) Active participation of RVASE members in **AIMF's gender equality initiative** at global network level: Emilie shares and monitors the completion of the questionnaire.

End of the annual meeting

Join us at 1:50 pm for the launch of the conference on fecal sludge management in Southeast Asia.