ASSIGNMENT 3

Participant: Tran Anh Tuan_Vietnam

What impressed me in Melbourne that can be applied to the city I am living in?

In my one week stay in Melbourne, I learned many things which are very useful for my work and which can be applied to my city:

1. What I learned from many speakers from different projects relating to sustainable development in Australia is that they are very professional in their work, they are knowledgeable on their projects, and they are responsible and enthusiastically contribute to the development of their city. I think these are all very important in the development of a city. I am living in Hanoi, Vietnam, in a period of time where there are many projects implemented at the city level. However, in terms of sustainable development, still there are enterprises do not pay much attention to comprehensive benefits, rather they strongly focus on economic profit, which is not good for sustainable development in my city. So, if enterprises and projects can incorporate responsible social development like the projects I learned about from speakers in Melbourne, that would be very useful for my city.
    The city can only develop sustainability when all enterprises, leaders, managers, and people in that city have a good attitude and are responsible for the development of the city, so my city should learn about this.

2. In term of sustainable development, there are many approaches to implement in the context of each city, however, in Melbourne, there is a very good cooperation among the city's authority with the university and research organizations. This means projects can be assessed scientifically, which is crucial in order to assess realistic benefits that meet the requirements of many social groups of people in a city. My city can learn about these experiences because in assessing and approving a project we typically only base decisions on the conclusion of one or some assessment boards.

3. In my city with more than 9 million people, the urbanization process is occurring very fast and many high rise buildings were built together with individual houses

for people. However, it is difficult to have enough "green area" because developers are trying to build a lot of house for selling. So, innovations such as Nightingale House with its green roof and gardens can be considered as a very good model to increase the green area in my city. That is very good model we can learn from Melbourne.

4. In term of sustainable development, I think there is a big gap between the concept to implement solutions and implementing solutions in real situations in each city and locality. In the past with the criteria and indicators of Agenda 21, we also faced difficulties in implementation and monitoring/evaluation because we lacked data to calculate the criteria and indicators. With Agenda 2030, the numbers of criteria and indicators increase and it is so difficult to calculate the indicators. And in fact, the criteria set is applied in the context of a country, however, to apply in each city, this can be adjusted because the conditions among cities are different from each other. So, they way Melbourne apply in details for each projects can be considered as a very good model for my city can learn about.

5. Melbourne is a city with many people from other countries and a modern city with good examples of sustainable development. So, I think the management model and "cultural identity" in Melbourne are very good for my city can learn about.