



FACULTY of ARCHITECTURE
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

2025.3.18

Urban Renaissance Agency (UR)

Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Architecture

UR and Chulalongkorn University have exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote urban development in Thailand

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On March 11, 2025, the Urban Renaissance Agency (UR) of Japan exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Chulalongkorn University to collaborate in promoting urban development in Thailand.



(Left) Assistant Professor Sarayut Supsook, Dean of Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University

(Right) Mr. Masaru Ishida, President of UR

Focusing on addressing urban problems and promoting new forms of urban development

Urban Renaissance Agency (UR) is a Japanese public organization that supports urban development, such as Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)¹ in various countries, including Australia, Thailand, and countries in Southeast Asia. UR's operations are in accordance with the 'Act on Promotion of Infrastructure Expansion Abroad,' which was enacted in 2018 with the aim of encouraging Japanese public and private sectors to participate more in urban and infrastructure development overseas.

This time, UR has exchanged an MOU with Chulalongkorn University, the first higher education institution in Thailand, recognized as a top educational and research institution in Asia. This MOU exchange aims to establish cooperation in urban research and development projects with related agencies both in Thailand and abroad to help solve traffic congestion problems, reduce unplanned urban sprawl, promote sustainable urban development, and foster new forms of urban development. UR will leverage its 'experience and expertise in carrying out more than 500² urban development projects in Japan' in collaboration with Chulalongkorn University, which has 'research capabilities and expertise in urban development and spatial management in Thailand.' Additionally, both parties plan to collaborate in organizing a forum in the near future as the first step of their cooperation.



Faculty of Architecture Building, Chulalongkorn University

¹ TOD (Transit Oriented Development) or the development of areas around transit stations is an urban development model that encourages people in cities to primarily use public transportation. TOD development in Japan began with the construction of the first railway route in 1872 and has evolved along with the expansion of the railway network, eventually becoming the main structure of modern cities.

² Urban regeneration: more than 250 projects, New urban development: 281 projects).

Who is UR?

Urban Renaissance Agency (UR) was established in 1955 to address the housing shortage following World War II. UR works with stakeholders from all sectors to create safe, convenient, and resident-friendly cities that adapt to the times. The goal is to create 'cities where people shine' In the future, UR will continue to address social challenges in all dimensions, aiming to promote sustainable urban development by leveraging the knowledge and expertise gained from urban development and revitalization projects, housing development projects, and disaster-affected area rehabilitation projects both in Japan and abroad.

In Thailand, UR has supported the development of smart cities and the development of areas around rail transport stations (Transit-Oriented Development, TOD) in Bang Sue district, the AMATA Japanese Smart City project, and developments in the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) area. It is expected that there will be further urban, community, and strategic area development projects in Thailand in the future.

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|--------------------------|---|---|
| UR Homepage | https://www.ur-net.go.jp/overseas/ |  |
| UR Introduction Brochure | https://www.ur-net.go.jp/overseas/lrmhph000000qyuc-att/Allpage_en.pdf |  |
| TOD by UR | https://www.ur-net.go.jp/overseas/urtod.html |  |

UR Representative Office in Bangkok

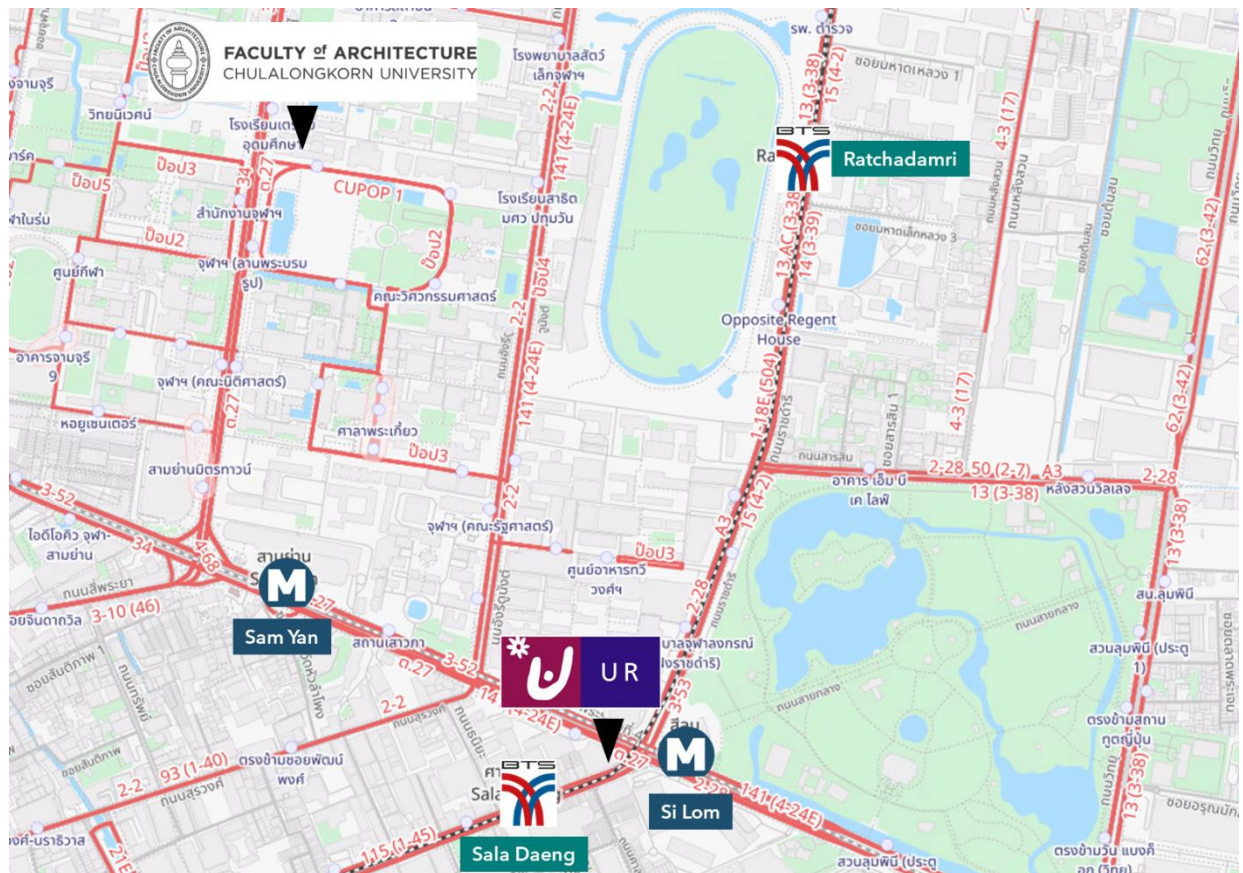
UR has initiated the establishment of overseas offices to expand opportunities for collaboration with stakeholders in each country to promote sustainable urban and infrastructure development. In July 2024, UR opened its office in Silom, Bangkok, Thailand, which is the second UR office abroad following the office in Australia. Shortly after, in August 2024, UR opened another office in Indonesia.

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| Address | Unit S12022, 12th Floor, Silom Edge, No.2 Silom Road, Suriya Wong, Bang Rak, Bangkok 10500, Thailand |
| Access | Around a 1-minute walk from Exit 2 of Silom MRT Station |

For contact related to public relations

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|---|-------|--|
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Map of the location of the UR Bangkok Office



Reference : Openstreetmap
