NEASPEC Strategic Plan Consultation

Climate Change and Low Carbon City (LCC)



NEASPEC Secretariat



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Background Overview

- Cities world-wide account for 70% of GHG emissions due to their energy intensive infrastructure and lifestyle
- North-East Asian countries contributed 32 % of global CO2 emissions from fuel consumptions (2012)
- It is estimated that low-carbon urban solutions available today, could generate savings with a current value of US\$16.6 trillion by 2050 (The New Climate Economy, 2015)
- Urban centers are also ideal 'policy labs' to experiment new policies and innovative measures





Background Overview

Country initiatives and programmes

China 12th Five Year Plan (energy and carbon intensity), Low Carbon Pilot Cities, Low Carbon Community Pilot Project

Japan Bill of the Basic Act on Global Warming Countermeasures, Eco-model City Programme, Future City Initiative

MongoliaMongolian Green Development Plan (2014), self
sufficient "green" and "smart" small cities, urban
planning, 30% green area share by 2030

Republic of
KoreaLow Carbon, Green Growth Basic Act (2010), Urban
Planning Guidelines for Low Carbon Green Growth,
Climate-model city and Eco-rich City

RussianMoscow Law on the Master Plan 2025: infrastructure,
energy conservation (energy efficiency target), city
planning and environmental protection, GHG





NEASPEC Eco-Efficiency Partnership on LCC



Recent progress

International symposium "Realizing Low Carbon Cities in North-East Asia" in Beijing, 2013

Institute for Urban and Environmental Studies, CASS

Participated by experts, academia, (sub)regional and international agencies, city representatives

Topics covering: policy, roles of stakeholders, research, tools and methodology, finance and economics, knowledge sharing, experiences and challenges

Key observations

- Empowerment of local governments
- Peer-to-peer support
- Further collaboration and communications
- In support to launch a subregional platform to facilitate information sharing, joint studies and assessments, and capacity building



North-East Asia Low Carbon City Platform



OBJECTIVES



Numerous global and regional networks in Asia are consisted of mainly municipal governments or academia. In order to add value to the existing networks, launching a **platform for organizations working on LCC approaches, policies and programmes** will:

- bring together existing and new information and knowledge on LCC approaches and policies,
- 2. synergize the works of specialized organizations; and
- 3. collectively support municipal authorities in moving towards LCC

North-East Asia Low Carbon City Platform

Info Sharing & Communications

- Events such as symposiums, workshops, field visits, EGMs.
- Web-based platform

Technical Assistance

- Partner institutions and experts can provide practical and direct assistance
- Cities can submit their for peers/ experts review

Analytical Studies

 Identify gaps and generate practical knowledge in NEA context

Capacity Building

• Directly enhance local capacity and enable first-hand experiences to be shared

North-East Asia Low Carbon City Platform Session

15 Dec 2015

Korea Research Institute of Human Settlement (KRIHS)

- Gather specialized organizations to review LCC works in the subregion
- Discuss activities/ support offered by the LCCP and its partners
- Explore areas of collaboration and potential joint events









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NEASPEC's low carbon cities strategy is a timely strategy as the world is preparing to conclude a global deal for the next phase of global climate commitments. Cities are receiving more attention not only as contributors but also for the innovations and solutions they offer.

NEASPEC can play a major role in:

- Knowledge exchange amongst Northeast Asian cities
- Cities can then diffuse the knowledge to others through their domestic platforms. The forum can focus on two aspects:
 - Low carbon city planning including peer-to-peer learning on the 4 steps of LCC planning (GHG measurement, target setting, action planning and performance tracking) (e.g. Tokyo's GHG inventory and Zhejiang province in China has institutionalized GHG inventory process)
 - Innovative on-the-ground actions (e.g. carbon trading programmes in China and Tokyo, Solar and eco-mileage programs in Seoul etc.)



Proposed Strategy

Objectives: By 2020, fully operationalize a **subregional platform** for low carbon cities to support communications and cooperation among stakeholders, and link cities and major stakeholders both within and beyond the subregion and promote awareness and capacity

Activities:

- Facilitate **information sharing and communications** with regard to subregional LCC progress, case studies, relevant activities, platform events and publications, etc.;
- Enhance provision of **technical assistance** by linking, mobilizing and connecting peers and experts to review and analyze city's LCC approach, as well as providing recommendations and technical support;
- Conduct **analytical studies** to identify gaps, generate practical knowledge and address specific for LCC development in North-East Asian context; and
- Promote capacity building by matching the demand and supply of knowledge and experiences especially within the subregion to enhance local capacity and enable first-hand experiences to be shared