

# Concept Note

## 5th International Forum on Low Carbon Cities

25 August 2025

Hybrid (Conference Room 4, United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok  
and Microsoft Teams)

### 1. Background

**The fifth International Forum on Low Carbon Cities** will be convened jointly by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in collaboration with North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC), Incheon Metropolitan City, Asia-Pacific Localization Partnership for Sustainable Cities (APLP-CITIES), and UN-Habitat. Held in a hybrid format, with in-person participation at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok and remote engagement via Microsoft Teams, the forums aim to ensure broad accessibility and stakeholder inclusion.

Urban development in the Asia-Pacific region presents complex challenges as well as dynamic engines for sustainable development, especially under the compounded contexts of climate pressures and substantial structural demographic changes. It is ambiguous how the unprecedented coexistence of large youth populations and ageing societies will impact low carbon city development, across various socio-economic contexts. The nuances in these relationships without more comprehensive understanding can hamper effective policy designs and implementation for sustainable development at the city level.<sup>1</sup>

Recognizing these opportunities and challenges, this event will serve as a key platform for city leaders, policymakers, urban experts, the private sector, youth, and development partners to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and shape regional strategies for sustainable urban development. The forums will explore the interlinkages between demographic transition and low-carbon cities, with a view to developing and implementing sustainable and inclusive urban strategies.

---

<sup>1</sup> The impacts of low-carbon city pilot policies on natural population growth: empirical evidence from China's prefecture-level cities

Yaxin Zheng, Miao Zhang, Sen Wang\*, Lin Wang <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/public-health/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2023.1214070/full>

## 2. Programme

<b>Day 1 – Monday, 25 August 2025: 5th International Forum on Low-Carbon Cities</b> <i>In collaboration with NEASPEC, Incheon Metropolitan City &amp; Partners</i> <b>Venue : Conference Room 4</b>	
09:00-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:30	<b>Opening session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Opening and welcome remarks</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mr. Hirohito Toda, Deputy Executive Secretary for Partnerships and Coordination</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Congratulatory remarks</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Incheon Metropolitan Government</li> <li>○ Mayor of Moscow (TBC)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Group photo</li> </ul>
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:00	<b>Session 1. Policy and Governance: Shaping Low-Carbon Urban Futures in Aging and Densifying Societies</b> Moderator: Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Deputy Head, Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia, ESCAP Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Pornphrom Vikitsreth, Chief Sustainability Officer, BMA, Thailand</li> <li>• Ms. Doljinsuren Myagmar, Senior Specialist, Climate Change Adaptation, Climate Change Division, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Mongolia</li> <li>• Ms. Huan Zheng, Technical Advisor, Shanghai Changning Urban Renewal and Low Carbon Management Center, China</li> <li>• Mr. Javohir Jurayev, Advisor on Energy Sector, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Uzbekistan</li> <li>• Ms. Minkyung Kang, Research Fellow, The Incheon Institute, RoK</li> </ul>
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:00-14:15	<b>Session 2. Innovations and Technologies: Sustainable Solutions for Cities in Changing Demographics and Urban Lifestyles</b> Moderator: Ms. Jingning Liu, Analyst, IGDP Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Sabine Henning, Social Development Division, ESCAP</li> <li>• Mr. Ying Long, Professor, Faculty of Urban Planning and Design, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China</li> <li>• Ms. Sukhee Kim, Senior Researcher, Suwon Research Institute, RoK, Data-driven urban mobility innovations</li> <li>• Mr. Vladimir Kryuchkov, CEO, ITS-Russia, Russian Federation</li> <li>• Ms. Erdenechimeg Elder-Ochir, Executive Director, Asian Infrastructure Research Institute (AIRI), Mongolia</li> </ul>

14:30-15:45	<p><b>Session 3. Partnerships and Implementation: Collaborative Approaches to Enabling Inclusive, Climate-resilient City Development</b></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Jing YU, Senior Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Dong Wang, Executive Secretary General, Shenzhen International Low-Carbon Forum Development Center, China</li> <li>• Mr. Emani Kumar, Deputy Secretary-General of ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability</li> <li>• Ms. Shom Teoh, Program Manager, IGES Bangkok Office</li> <li>• Ms. Diana F Torres, Regional Governance Advisor, UNDP</li> <li>• Mr. Elmar Mammadov, Head of Economic Cooperation Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Azerbaijan</li> </ul>
15:45-16:00	<p><b>Closing Session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESCAP ENEA</li> </ul>

### 3. Contact Information

For further inquiries, please contact:

- **Sojung You (Ms.)**, Research Assistant, ESCAP-SOENEA at [sojung.you@un.org](mailto:sojung.you@un.org)