

LCS-RNet Researchers Meeting

Secretariat of the LCS-RNet
1-2 April 2009
Trieste, Italy

Today's participants

French Environment and Energy Management Agency	ADEME	France
Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations	IDDR	France
Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy	WI	Germany
Italian National Agency for New Technologies Energy and the Environment	ENEA	Italy
Italian National Agency for New Technologies Energy and the Environment	ENEA	Italy
Euro Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change	CMCC	Italy
Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei	FEEM	Italy
National Institute for Environmental Studies	NIES	Japan
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies	IGES	Japan
Institute for Energy Systems and UK Energy Research Centre, University of Edinburgh	UKERC	UK
National Institute of Environmental Research	NIER	Republic of Korea

Today's participants – continued -		
Federal Environment Agency, Sustainable Energy Supply		Germany
Ministry for the Environment		Italy
Ministry of the Environment		Japan
State Ministry for Environment Rep of Indonesia		Indonesia
Brazilian Sugarcane Industry Association	UNICA	
International Energy Agency	IEA	
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	OECD	
United Nations Foundation	UNF	
World Trade Organization, Trade and Environment Division	WTO	

Schedule

■ Day 1

- Introduction
- Discussion on key questions
- Introduction of activities of participating institutions
- Drafting of Strategic Paper and Chairpersons' summary

■ Day 2

- Introduction of activities of participating institutions - continues
- Discussion on Strategic Paper
- Discussion on Chairpersons' summary
- Closing

Open Discussion 1

- What do you expect from this LCS-RNet?
- What is Value Added of this LCS-RNet?



- Objectives, Nature; and Uniqueness
- LCS under LSC-RNet; Themes/Areas

Open Discussion 2

- What kind of function is necessary for LCS-RNet to be successful?



- Activities and Outputs
- Goal after 5 years
- Membership
- Decision Making
- Basic Rules of Financial Matters

Background

May 2008: G8 EMM at Kobe

- Supported **the international research network on low-carbon societies (LCS)**

Recognising;

- Necessity to transfer the socio-economic structure for LCS.
- Importance to have visions of own low-carbon societies.

July 2008: Interim Secretariat for LCS-RNet was set up in IGES.

Nomination of founding research institutes by G8 countries

→By March 2009 : 9 institutions from 5 countries registered

Dec 2008 : Announcement of setting up LCS-RNet at the COP14

March 2009 : Presentation of Background paper at Preparatory Meeting of Siracusa G8 EMM in Rome .

1 - 2 April 2009: LCS-RNet Researchers Meeting, Trieste, Italy.

5 April 2009: LCS-RNet Session in G8 Forum:
Low Carbon Technologies Development, Trieste, Italy.

Objectives of the Meeting

- To provide the first contact of core researchers involved with LCS-RNet,
- To exchange information of researches related to LCS study,
- Strategic planning for LCS-RNet activities and outputs

Expected Outputs of the Meeting

- **Strategic Paper**
 - Strategic planning covers objectives, activities and outputs, future plan, management and organizational matters of the LCS-RNet
- **Chairpersons' summary**
 - Main points discussed and decisions in this meeting



To be reported at the LCS-RNet – Kick off meeting in the High Level Forum on 5th April 2009:

→ for official kick-off of the LCS-RNet

Strategic Paper

Zero draft prepared by the Secretariat:

- based on
 - The background paper
 - Views and opinions that the Secretariat gathered from core research institutions in March 2009
- needs to be
 - revised during the meeting; and
 - presented to the LCS-RNet Kick-off Meeting

Strategic Paper - Outline -

- Introduction
- Background
- Objectives and the Nature of the Network
 - Objectives; Nature; and Uniqueness
- Research and Activity Planning
 - LCS under LSC-RNet; Themes/Areas; Activities and Outputs; and Goal after 5 years
- Management and Administrative Matters
 - Membership; Decision Making; and Basic Rules of Financial Matters

Objectives

from the discussions/brainstorming with research institutions in March

All agreed that:

- Information exchange and research cooperation among research institutions whose focuses cover various issues relating to LCS,
- Dialogues between participating researchers and various stakeholders including policy-makers, businesses, citizens and others to share possible visions on low carbon societies,
- Contribution to G8 process and other international political processes on climate change by providing research outcomes and recommendations.

Proposals/discussion points:

- *Scope of LCS-RNet covers research on society and human behaviour, as well as technologies,*
- *Keep direct access to policy-makers to deliver summary of research findings – taking the opportunities at G8EMM and UNFCCC COP side events,*
- *Research of / research to assist sub-national level, regions, and cities.*

Nature of LCS-RNet

from the discussions/brainstorming with research institutions in March

All agreed that:

- A platform for voluntary collaboration amongst research institutions for information exchange
- Non-binding network, and its activities and outcomes are independent from official views of any governments, and should not be policy prescriptive. Scientific integrity

Proposals/discussion points:

- *Which type of the network/platform is to be aimed,*
 - *joint programme on specific output, or building common research type?*
 - *What kind of collaboration is possible, or is collaboration too much?*

Uniqueness

from the discussions/brainstorming with research institutions in March

Proposals/discussion points:

- *Difference/uniqueness of LCS-RNet from other initiatives*
- *Direct linkage between research and international policy-making processes, including G8 Environment Ministers Meeting*

LCS under LCS-RNet, Themes/areas, Goal after 5 years

from the discussions/brainstorming with research institutions in March

Proposals/discussion points:

- *LCS under LCS-RNet - what's the difference with sustainable development and the millennium development goal*
- *Common research questions ? Themes/areas?*
- *How to cooperate with other initiatives whose objectives are similar to the LCS-Rnet*
- *Goal after 5 years - Something to evaluate the success/achievement of the LCS-RNet*

Activities and Output

from the discussions/brainstorming with research institutions in March

Proposals/discussion points:

- *Activities include:*
 - *Annual researchers meeting*
 - *Summer school type of one-week intensive study session*
 - *Joint research on specific areas*
- *Expected outputs include:*
 - *Annual Meeting Report*
 - *Synthesis report of the scientific results for the use of policy-makers*
 - *Newsletter/policy brief, annual report (end of the year), synthesis report*

Membership

from the discussions/brainstorming with research institutions in March

Proposals/discussion points

- *Open to research institutes on LCS study, but needs certain limitation for efficient network activities*
- *(the Secretariat asks) a single research contact point per county to be designated*

Decision-making

from the discussions/brainstorming with research institutions in March

All agreed that:

- LCS-RNet should be independent
- Core steering group would be needed as a decision-making body.
- Role of governments - to limit to e.g. advisory to administrative matters

Proposals/discussion points:

- *Steering group and its mandate*
- *Establishment of Interim Steering Group*
- *Advisory board and task groups if necessary*

Basic rules of financial matters

from the discussions/brainstorming with research institutions in March

Proposals/discussion points:

- *The costs of research activities and the participation of all activities of Network are born by each participating research institutions.*
- *The administration cost of the Network including the hosting the annual meeting will be born by research institutions on the voluntary basis.*
- *Voluntary financial and other contributions from all participating countries/research institutions to the Network's activities are highly encouraged.*

Grazie!