

# **Lesson learnt from LCS-RNet/LoCARNet activities and outcomes from dialogues between Researchers and Policy-makers in Asia**

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**Masaya Fujiwara**

Principal Fellow / Integrated Research Programme Manager  
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

# LoCARNet: Low Carbon Asia Research Network

Aims to formulate and better enable the implementation of science-based policies for low-carbon development in Asia to facilitate the realisation of a low-carbon and sustainable society.



- LCS-RNet Secretariat has been conducting workshops in 4 Asian countries with NIES/AIM team. During the course of these workshops, the growing importance of low-carbon growth in Asia was strongly recognised.
- Japan/LCS-RNet Secretariat proposed the establishment of a network called the “**Low Carbon Asia Research Network (LoCARNet)**” at ASEAN+3 EMM held in October 2011 in Cambodia.
- At the “**East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue**” on 15 April 2012, it was agreed to work towards establishing the “**East Asia Knowledge Platform for Low Carbon Growth**”, as an open, multi-layered, flexible all stakeholders’ network for sharing knowledge towards low-carbon growth in Asia.
- **LoCARNet** was declared its launch at the side-event of the **partnership dialogue**. LoCARNet will take part in the **knowledge platform** as **a central core for providing knowledge**.

# Lesson learnt from activities and outcomes from dialogues between Researchers and Policy-makers in Asia – Synthesis reports of our past policy dialogues



## 2011 July in Malaysia

- Malaysia workshop on Asian Low Carbon Society: From Malaysia to Asia
- [http://lcs-rnet.org/publications/pdf/201203\\_malaysia.pdf](http://lcs-rnet.org/publications/pdf/201203_malaysia.pdf)



## 2011 January in Cambodia

- Cambodia Workshop on Scientific Approach to Low-Carbon Development Planning in Cambodia
- [http://lcs-rnet.org/publications/pdf/LCS-RNet\\_Cambodia\\_Synthesis.pdf](http://lcs-rnet.org/publications/pdf/LCS-RNet_Cambodia_Synthesis.pdf)



## 2010 November in Thailand

- Thailand Workshop on Transition towards Low Carbon Societies in Thailand and Asia - Dialogue between Policy-makers and Researchers and Cross-sectoral Approach
- [http://lcs-rnet.org/publications/pdf/2011SynthesisReport\\_Thailand.pdf](http://lcs-rnet.org/publications/pdf/2011SynthesisReport_Thailand.pdf)



## 2010 February in Indonesia

- Indonesia Workshop on Towards Sustainable Low-Carbon Development and Green Growth in Indonesia and Asia-Linking Research and Policy-
- <http://lcs-rnet.org/publications/pdf/2010BogorSynthesisReport.pdf>

# Ten Key Findings in Asia (1)

## 1. Strong Commitments of Governments towards LCS

- Governments are considering LCS as an opportunity.
- Governments are showing a strong policy signal towards LCS.
- Governments are willing to develop science-based policy-making.

## 2. Integrating Climate Change Actions into Development Plan

- Developing national and sectoral roadmaps is an effective approach to identify a course of actions required (Indonesia).
- Sound agriculture community is important for the national development plan to become a food commodity supplier to neighboring countries as well as to avoid problems of urbanisation in big cities by keeping people in the agriculture communities for some countries (Cambodia).
- Drawing a scenario reflecting development plans based on the data extended from the national GHG inventories may be a good approach for Cambodia (Cambodia).
- No common generalised approach/policy can be applicable to different country.
- Due to the different stages of development, various geopolitical, graphical conditions and emission sources, policies and target areas are varied and country-specific.

## Ten Key Findings in Asia (2)

### 3. A Few Priority Focus Areas

- Energy and transportation: Priority areas are energy efficiency, demand side management, renewable energy, high speed, multi-modal and low carbon transport systems, and poly-centric type urban land use planning (Thailand).
- Forestry and peat land and land-use change, followed by the energy sector are given priority (Indonesia).
- Efforts at national, regional and local levels to foster low-carbon cities (Malaysia).

### 4. Innovative Governance and Cross-Sector Collaboration

- Coordination of land use and energy policies and supporting institutional arrangement is needed.
- Inter-ministerial coordination is needed.
- Mechanisms for cross-sector coordination are urgently required to allocate limited financial resources among multiple options, resolve possible cross-sector conflicts around land use policies, and facilitate integrated assessment approach.
- Harmonised policies and better coordination between central and local governments, as well as across sectors, are keys.

## Ten Key Findings in Asia (3)

### 5. Importance of Sub-National / Local Level Initiatives

- Thai experience with CDM provides a good basis of city-based LCS approach – which is now developed as a national mechanism named “Crown standard” to identify low carbon cities (Thailand).
- Land use policy planning and policy coordination at the national and sub-national levels is important for the efficient use of resources (Cambodia).
- Sub-national level is the key to strengthening ownership of knowledge and to accelerate the speed of development to foster the realisation of LCS (Malaysia).
- Energy source must be diversified by promoting locally produced renewable energy (particularly geo-thermal source and solar power).

### 6. Science Policy Linkage

- Holistic, multi-disciplinary research including use of integrated assessment models, new indicators to measure effects of low carbon policies, new institutions design and analysis, and so on, needs to be promoted.
- Policy makers strongly need credible, integrated, relevant research findings by researchers to support policy design (Cambodia).

## Ten Key Findings in Asia (4)

### 7. Inventories - A Strong Basis for a Scientific Approach

- Lack of reliable activity data is a barrier for developing LCS scenarios.
- Countries that develop reliable inventories could be in a good position for mitigation activities including CDM, and international negotiations.

### 8. Innovative Technology and Effective Technology Transfer

- Identification, deployment and dissemination of readily available low-carbon technologies should be prioritised in short-term.
- For energy supply – it is a way to improve the access to electricity promoting off-grid system using biofuels and other renewable energy.
- Technical know-how to support the localisation of such technologies, as well as infrastructure changes for LCS, are important.

## Ten Key Findings in Asia (5)

### 9. Traditional Values to Promote LCS

- LCS vision of Thailand is guided by the philosophy of ‘sufficiency economy’ that focuses on the community and the management of human and natural resources with sustainable manner (Thailand).
- The philosophy of “sufficiency economy” is expected to promote citizen awareness and grass roots action. This indicates an effective combination of top-down and bottom-up approaches to gain public support for the LCS policies (Thailand).
- Principles of traditional society, such as ‘sufficiency,’ ‘co-existence with nature,’ and ‘cooperation’ should be re-vitalised in the current development context (Indonesia).

### 10. Mobilisation of Available Financing Schemes

- Scaled-up financing from international sources is fundamental to achieving the Indonesian target. Available sources include national budgets, finances from international sources including ODA and multilateral schemes, private sectors, and NGOs (Indonesia).
- Involvement of private sector for financing LCS in Thailand can be attained by risk management schemes such as public private partnerships (PPP) (Thailand).



# Collaboration of JICA/NIES/IGES

Side-event on East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue  
(14 April 2012, Tokyo, Japan)

## East Asia Knowledge Platform for Low Carbon Growth

----- Research Community -----

**Research into low-carbon societies:**

National Institute of  
Environmental Studies  
(NIES)



**Research network for low-carbon growth and sustainable development:**

Institute for Global  
Environmental  
Strategies (IGES)



-- Practitioners --

**Knowledge and lessons learned from international cooperation activities:**

Japan International  
Cooperation Agency  
(JICA)



Previous cooperation: development of scenarios towards low-carbon societies in Iskandar, Malaysia in accordance with the SATREPS scheme by JST/JICA, etc..

# Summary and highlights of the side-event

## Inputs from research & policy studies

### Implications for Practice

- promoting dialogue between researchers and policy-makers
- fortifying collaboration with other stakeholders, including the private sector
- providing training opportunities for pro-low carbon growth strategic planning

## Inputs from development practitioners

### Future Research Needs

- examining feasible steps to achieve low carbon societies
- offering potential options and incentives for low carbon infrastructure investment
- evaluating market tools to promote transition to low carbon societies

## Responses from speakers and participants

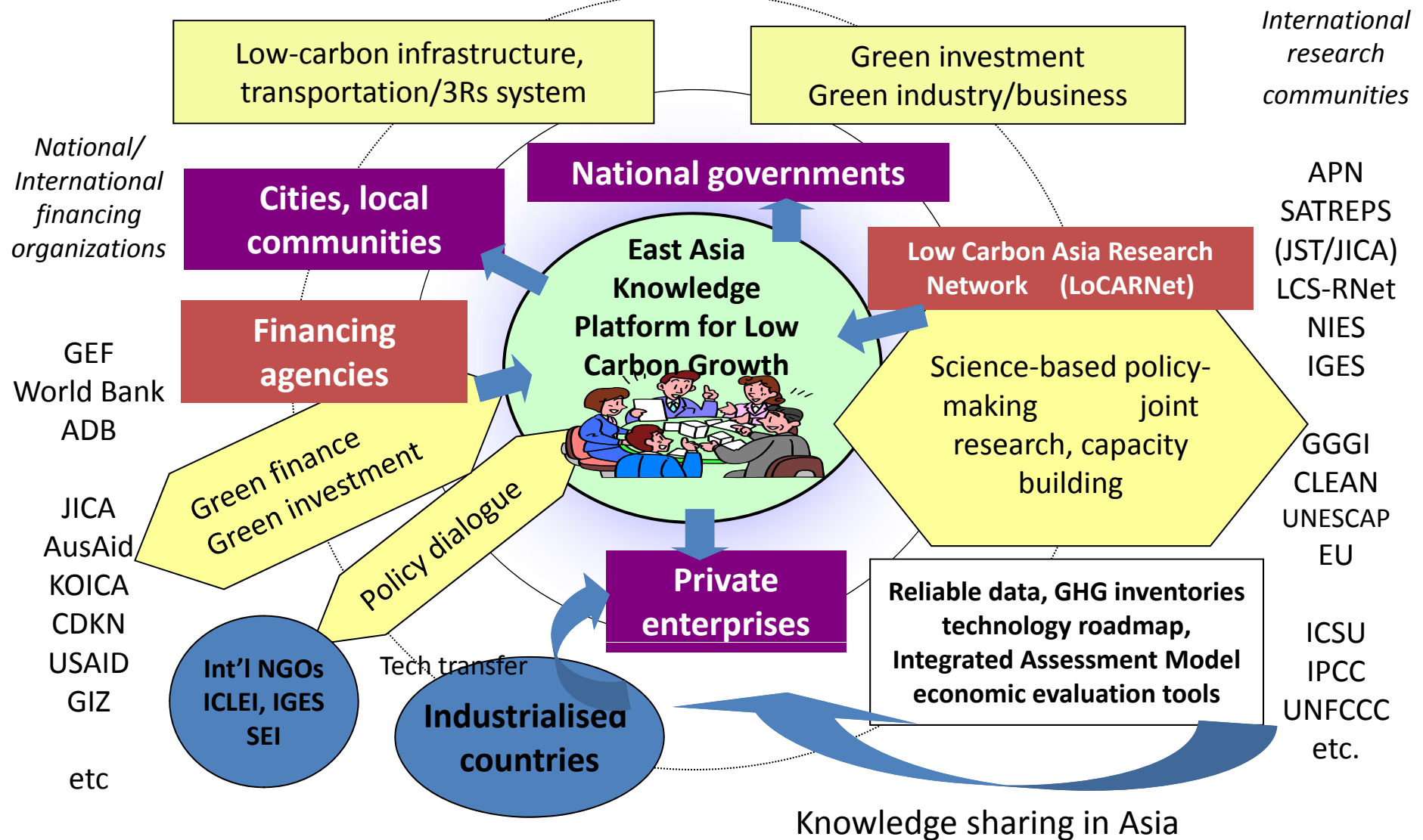
- growing importance of further collaboration with other like-minded stakeholders, including international organisations and the private sector.
- Importance of the roles of local governments and cities in making low-carbon societies a reality.
- **need for effective networks when conducting information exchange and knowledge sharing towards low-carbon growth in the Asia-Pacific region.**

East Asia Knowledge Platform  
for Low Carbon Growth

LoCARNet

# East Asia Knowledge Platform for Low-Carbon Growth

to lead sustainable low-carbon world through high & strong growth  
Asian research, knowledge, policy, investment & collaboration



*“Low Carbon Society/Development (LCS/LCD) issue is not only related with GHG emission activities but also essentially connected with national development planning. Real and quantitative integration is necessary in order to design Low Carbon Society/ Development.”  
(Source: Matsuoka)*





***Thank you very much for your attention!***



**LCS-RNet/LoCARNet Secretariat**  
<http://lcs-rnet.org/index.html>

**c/o Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)**  
**2108-11 Kamiyamaguchi, Hayama, Kanagawa 240-0115, Japan**

**E-mail: [lcs-rnet@iges.or.jp](mailto:lcs-rnet@iges.or.jp)**

**Fax: +81 (0)46 855 3809**

# LoCARNet - Basic activities (1)

LoCARNet is a network of leading researchers/research organizations who are engaging sincerely in low carbon policy in Asian countries.

**1. Facilitating collaboration amongst researchers in the Asia-Pacific region who conduct research on low-carbon growth in various countries around the region.**

- Advancing the sharing of knowledge amongst researchers
- Strengthening the networking amongst research institutes
- Cooperating with researchers and research institutes to enable them to develop their own, robust scientific research foundation on low-carbon growth

**2. Promoting sufficient dialogue between researchers and policy-makers**

- holding dialogues with policy-makers in Asian countries
- cooperating with policy-makers within each country

## Basic activities (2)

### **3. Encouraging collaboration with low-carbon research and policy formulation activities executed by other networks or organisations**

- Advancing knowledge sharing activities with low-carbon research and policy formulation activities in other areas

### **4. Working to address and resolve common issues of the region by conducting joint research on low-carbon growth**

- Conducting joint research activities on low carbon growth
- Introducing and mutually utilising joint research outcomes
- Conducting outreach to the region regarding research outcomes

## **Basic activities (3)**

- 5. Contributing to the formulation and implementation of science-based policies for low-carbon development in the region through dissemination and outreach regarding network activities**
  - Disseminating outcomes of network activities in a broad and proactive manner
  - Developing synthesis reports on low-carbon growth research in Asia
  
- 6. Other activities**