



## LoCARNet Iskandar Malaysia Declaration

### Stabilising climate through low carbon actions in Asia - Road to COP 21 and Beyond

Climate change *is* taking place and its impacts are increasingly felt; tackling climate change is *not* an option and *now* is the time! Everyone on the planet needs to contribute. Being a continent that is called home by over half the world's population, fast urbanising, and experiencing the most rapid economic growth, Asia's positive actions towards stabilising the climate are especially indispensable. Asia must be *included* for any global climate change mitigation and adaptation actions to be meaningful towards the year 2020 and beyond.

We, participants of the *International Conference on Low Carbon Asia* and *LoCARNet 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting* in Iskandar Malaysia, Johor, have thus agreed to produce the Iskandar Malaysia Declaration as stated below:

1. **Asian wisdom** for sustainable development potentially underpins the success of any international and regional climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. Asian wisdom's holistic and extra-long term world view; espousal of harmony and balance; and emphasis on "mottainai" (frugality), "gotong-royong" (collective actions), sufficiency economy philosophy (SEP) and mutual benefits for all offer effective frameworks for international consensus, advancement and operationalisation of climate stabilisation goals and actions.
2. Transformation of Asian economies into sustainable low carbon economies via embracing **green growth** needs to be accelerated; new opportunities and possibilities for economic growth in Asia arising out of climate change mitigation and adaptation actions need to be emphasised.
3. People are at the centre of any consequential transition into a low carbon society (LCS) and economy, and Asians are a highly diverse people; **inclusive** and enabling climate policies that empower the people to determine and take positive climate stabilisation actions in accordance with their economic, socio-cultural and technological capacities are vital.
4. Asian nations will continue to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, including **cities, human settlements and natural environments** (sustainable management of forests through REDD+, combating desertification; halting and reversing land degradation; halting biodiversity loss), as well as ensure sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources.
5. Bringing 'Science-into-Action' (S2A) is an indispensable dimension of effective climate policies and **low carbon governance** towards ensuring that climate policies are not only formulated based on good scientific evidence but are also implementable. Asia will continue to focus efforts on strengthening well established pro-active research networks and communities of researchers, sub-national as well as national policymakers and implementation agencies to spearhead low carbon transition into a sustainable LCS.
6. Global climate stabilisation goals cannot possibly be achieved without Asian nations' concrete contributions and Asian nations need variable forms and levels of supports and aids from developed economies to transform into LCS. Global and regional **smart partnerships** in the form of North-South and South-South-North cooperation in capacity building, mutual learning, technology transfer, technical assistance and financial aids will be a key success factor of the transition towards resilient LCS that is compatible with an increase in average surface temperatures limited to 1.5° to 2°C compared to the pre-industrial level.

The world can no longer afford any delay in taking real, positive actions to mitigate and adapt to global climate change. Asia is ready to contribute.

Asia positively anticipates desirable outcomes of the Paris Climate Change Agreement that will put in place an *inclusive and enabling* framework for actions which recognises *differentiated capacities and potential* of, and thus is supportive to, all nations in their quest to contribute realistically to mitigating and adapting to global climate change.

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Low Carbon Asia Research Network (LoCARNet)<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>[http://lcs-rnet.org/about\\_locarnet/](http://lcs-rnet.org/about_locarnet/)