



## LoCARNet Bangkok Declaration

### Sustainable Low Carbon Emission Development in Asia

A new era for global climate and sustainability policies dawned in 2015 and 2016. The adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 (September 2015) and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) (October 2016), and the coming into force of the Paris Agreement (November 2016) set the world on a new course towards effective realisation of sustainable, low-carbon societies (LCS). Global sustainability and climate policies will now not only be formulated and implemented at the national level but, importantly, also at the regional and city levels. Non-state stakeholders such as cities, local governments, businesses, financial organisations and civil societies will be game changers in worldwide transitions towards sustainable LCS – actual actions on the ground at all levels will take centre stage.

Being home to over half the world's population and, soon, commanding over half the world's economy, Asia is forever more key to the global transition into a sustainable and climate-change-mitigated future in 2030 and beyond.

Recognising the above, WE, participants of the 3<sup>rd</sup> *International Conference of Low Carbon Asia* and 6<sup>th</sup> *LoCARNet Annual Meeting* in Bangkok, Thailand, have thus agreed to produce the *LoCARNet Bangkok Declaration* as stated below:

1. In order to reduce GHG emissions required for climate stabilisation, across-the-board transition in our social system as a whole is pivotal. In this regard, LoCARNet remains steadfast in fostering domestic and within-region research communities in Asia, promoting evidence-based policymaking by bridging the gap between policymakers and research communities, and stimulating region-wide knowledge-sharing via regional cooperation
2. 'Science to Action' (S2A) shall remain an indispensable dimension of effective sustainable development and climate policies towards ensuring that sustainability and 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 actual transitions into a sustainable LCS.
3. People are at the centre of any consequential transition into a sustainable LCS and economy. Asia is committed to continuous engagement of the widest possible range of stakeholders in an inclusive manner, in order to empower the people to determine and take positive sustainability and LCS actions in accordance with their different economic, socio-cultural and technological capacities.
4. SDG 2030, NUA and the Paris Agreement need to be consolidated into an integrated framework for sustainability and LCS research, policymaking and implementation; sustainability and LCS actions need to be constructively aligned with these global agendas, considering all potential synergies and possible trade-offs. LoCARNet undertakes to enhance and support research on, and dissemination and operationalisation of SDG 2030, NUA and the Paris Agreement at all national, regional and city levels.
5. Identification and quantification of social and economic co-benefits of sustainability and LCS actions are highly essential in order to increase their attractiveness to, and buy-in among, businesses, industries, policymakers and the society at large. Asia looks positively to various leveraging opportunities offered by emerging 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution technologies and "co-innovation" – cooperation among Asian countries by utilising leading countries' technology and knowhow – to help close the varied gaps of resource availability, socioeconomic inequalities and sustainable infrastructure provision across the Asian Continent.

The world can no longer afford any delay in taking real, positive actions to mitigate and adapt to global climate change, and create real, sustainable low carbon societies around the world. Asia is more than ever willing to contribute to this global transition into a sustainable LCS future; LoCARNet is committed to providing the supporting and enabling platform to expedite the realisation of this transition, especially in promoting actions by private companies and local governments through appropriate institutional arrangements and capacity building.

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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/)