

Dhaka, January 2016

LoCARNet-IGES-ICCCAD Policy Dialogue on Carbon Emission Pathways for Bangladesh

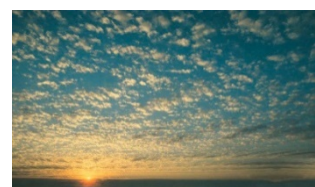
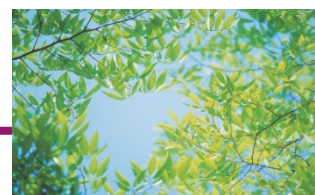
Stabilising climate change through low-carbon actions in Asia

In its Fifth Assessment Report, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) sent a clear message that without additional adaptation and mitigation measures, the world is likely to face severe and irreversible impacts of climate change in the form of extreme weather events, loss of biological diversity and food insecurity. This has the potential to jeopardise the very foundations of human society and economy. The people of the world must work together to stabilise climate change through low-carbon actions supported by appropriate policies at the global, national and local levels.

Asia is home to roughly half of the population of the world. Many of the Asian developing countries, particularly the low-lying and coastal ones such as Bangladesh, are among the most vulnerable countries facing climate change. In fact, the impacts of climate change are already felt in many of these countries. Considering the significance of the formulation and implementation of science-based policies for low-carbon development in the Asian region, an open network of researchers, research organisations, as well as like-minded relevant stakeholder—the Low Carbon Asia Research Network (LoCARNet) was launched at the East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue in 2012. As a knowledge-sharing network, LoCARNet reflects an awareness of the importance of facilitating the realisation of a low carbon and sustainable society.

LoCARNet and its activities for promoting science-based policymaking

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) of Japan has been serving as the secretariat of the LoCARNet since 2012. The secretariat works in cooperation with Japan's National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), the Japan focal point of this network, to promote dialogue among researchers and policymakers in Asian developing countries. The Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) has provided financial support to LoCARNet's capacity building activities in Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia and Malaysia. Under these activities, LoCARNet has held several workshops and policy dialogues to support collaboration among researchers involved in low carbon development-related activities. The workshops bring together the public stakeholders, international experts, and private stakeholders for informed and practical discussions. As a result of these activities, the need to share knowledge on low-carbon issues within the region in Asia has come to the forefront.



“Climate change is taking place and its impacts are increasingly felt...The world can no longer afford any delay in taking real, positive actions to mitigate and adapt to global climate change.”

***LoCARNet Iskandar Malaysia Declaration
(13 October 2015)***

The ultimate goal of LoCARNet is to enhance the ability for each country to conduct low-carbon development. In other words, to encourage countries to formulate their own environmental policy by their own research communities and strengthen their policymaking in line with their future plan.

Policy dialogue on Carbon Emission Pathways for Bangladesh

In continuation with its activities in Asia, LoCARNet has prioritised Bangladesh as one of the target countries for initiating capacity building for science-based climate policymaking. Bangladesh, which is one of the most vulnerable countries facing the adverse effects to climate change, needs special global attention particularly for adapting to climate change. At the same time, the country needs to reorient and reshape its policies and priorities for low-carbon development. This is particularly important given that the country has shown very impressive growth and development in the last couple of decades, and the trend is likely to continue in the coming years. With growth, its use of energy and other resources will also increase significantly. It is therefore high time for the country to adopt and strengthen its low-carbon development policies.

LoCARNet intends to arrange the policy dialogue in Bangladesh particularly to demonstrate and discuss possible analytical methodologies and quantitative tools for policymaking. IGES, as the secretariat of LoCARNet, is organising the policy dialogue in collaboration with the International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD) in Bangladesh. The policy dialogue will focus on two thematic sessions:

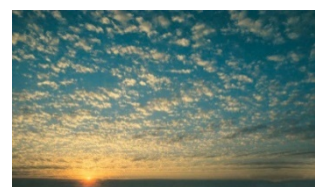
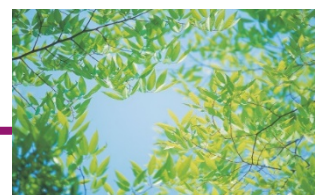
- **Updating on climate change related policies, activities and research in Bangladesh**

This session focuses on stocktaking on climate change-related policy formulation and implementation in Bangladesh, the status of research on environment and climate change from an academic perspective, the role of the civil society in climate policymaking, and identifying the gaps in building synergies between research and policymaking.

- **Science-based research and integrated climate policy: good practices and examples**

This session discusses science-based methods for analysing energy and emissions. Several instances and good examples from Bangladesh and Japan will be shown. Along with overall integrated models, country-specific quantitative tools such as the newly-developed Bangladesh 2050 Pathways Calculator and Japan 2050 Low Carbon Navigator will be demonstrated. This session will also host a presentation on low-carbon technology assessment and diffusion-related activities between Japan and Bangladesh.

A panel session will follow the two thematic sessions to propose the next steps in integrating researchers from different disciplines and enhancing dialogue among research communities and decision-makers in the future.



“The impacts of higher temperatures, more variable precipitation, more extreme weather events, and sea level rise are already felt in Bangladesh and will continue to intensify.”

The World Bank (2015)