

<p>1. Organizer Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) /</p>
<p>2. Title Transition to Low-Carbon Resilient Societies: From Theory to Reality</p>
<p>3. Theme This side-event reported on the results of the International Research Network for Low Carbon Societies (LCS-RNet) Fifth Annual Meeting held in July 2013 in Yokohama, and introduced efforts towards realising low-carbon transition in several countries. In addition, discussions were held on future agendas for LCS-RNet.</p>
<p>4. Agenda and speakers</p> <p>Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Junichi Shiraishi, Japanese Ministry of the Environment (MOEJ) <p>Report of the LCS-RNet 5th Annual Meeting – Accelerating the Transition to Low Carbon Societies – from Theory to Reality -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Mikiko Kainuma, NIES, Japan, and ● Dr. Sergio La Motta, National Agency for New Technologies Energy and the Environment (ENEA), Italy <p>Special Report: Triggering Finance for a Low Carbon Transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Jean-Charles Hourcade, International Research Center on Environment and Development (CIRED), France <p>Round Talk: “Towards Low-Carbon Transition, What We Can Learn from Different Approaches Taken in Different Countries, What Are Common Agendas to Address?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Shuzo Nishioka, LCS-RNet Secretariat / IGES, Japan ● Dr. Mikiko Kainuma, NIES, Japan ● Mr. David Warrilow, the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) ● Dr. Jean-Charles Hourcade, CIRED, France ● Dr. Antonio Navarra, CMCC/FEEM, Italy ● Dr. Jiang Kejun, Energy Research Institute (ERI), National Development and Reform Commission, China ● Dr. Axel Michaelowa, Perspectives, Switzerland ● Dr. Junichi Fujino, NIES, Japan <p>Closing</p>

5. Outline of presentations and discussions

- At the beginning of the side-event, Mr. Junichi Shiraishi, Ministry of the Environment, Japan gave his opening remarks, in which he expressed his expectations for LCS-RNet activities, reflecting the latest scientific findings into policies in an effective manner. He also stressed that the Ministry of the Environment must consider not just mitigation aspects, but also adaptation, on the road towards creating low-carbon societies.
- The key messages of LCS-RNet Fifth Annual Meeting were given by Dr. Mikiko Kainuma of NIES and Dr. Sergio La Motta of ENEA, Italy, who stated that the world is entering a huge transition phase historically, and in order for society to break free from and avoid having further lock-in to energy-intensive alternatives, it will be imperative to collect and then mobilise global wisdom. They also stressed that a substantial portion of future emission reductions worldwide must be made in developing countries, so in this context, the activities of this network should be expanded as a means to discuss low-carbon development in both developed and developing countries. In addition, Dr. Jean-Charles Hourcade of CIREN, France, expressed his views that a low-carbon society and green economy can be considered as two kinds of effective leverage that have the potential to induce wider transitions towards a sustainable world.
- Next came reports on efforts made by various countries towards achieving low-carbon transition. Mr. David Warrilow began introduced the UK, a country that has mentioned transition for low-carbon societies in its Climate Change Act 2008. In this act, the net UK carbon account for the year 2050 was set at 80% below 1990 levels. The UK has also developed a “Carbon Budget” for four terms, every 5 years from 2008 to 2027. Dr. Antonio Navarra of CMCC/FEEM, Italy, stated that transition to low-carbon societies is accompanied with a major transformation of social structure, and it is difficult to understand this transformation under the context of the current, on-going university system. Therefore, a more interdisciplinary approach is necessary. Dr. Axel Michaelowa from Switzerland emphasised that a co-benefit approach has limitations in evoking such a large transformation in social and energy structures for low-carbon societies, and, it is certainly a challenge for us to build-up long-term low-carbon societies under political change such as regime change. Dr. Junichi Fujino of NIES mentioned about “eye-opening” efforts made by developing countries in Asia and these rapid

diffusions. He introduced an example in Iskandar, Malaysia, where a low-carbon blueprint has been developed over the last few years, and stated that we should pay much more attention to such examples of “leapfrogging”.

- For the Q and A session, there was a question on what would be triggers leading to low-carbon development and low-carbon societies. Mr. David Warrilow replied that the UK has put immense credibility on science, and he added that energy security ensures the diversification of energy sources. Dr. Junichi Fujino stated that Iskandar, Malaysia, focuses on quite a few factors such as setting up emissions reduction target in national level, and looking at leadership both at the national and local (municipal) level. Iskandar also emphasises opportunities as a special economic zone, its geographical features as a neighbour to Singapore, and also the partnerships and close ties between local universities and research collaborators.
- Looking at potential future agendas for LCS-RNet, Dr. Shuzo Nishioka of LCS-RNet Secretariat raised the following examples:
 - How should we deal with mitigation and adaptation in an integrated manner, from a global risk management aspect?
 - What roles is played by low-carbon and resilient investment, through green technology, technology innovation and finance, and can they serve as leverage to recover from the economic crisis?
 - How should we strengthen climate policies in response to increasing new sources of cheap energy, such as shale gas?
 - How should we approach electricity system reform as a common carrier of various types of new energy and demand-side controller?
 - Cities are good units to lead the transition. How should we promote a bottom-up approach by cities?
 - How can we support and convey our experiences to emerging economies, especially in Asia, towards low-carbon, resilient development?
 - How can we create resource efficiency improvements which can contribute to reducing energy on the demand side and reflect them into policies?
- The side-event pointed out that agendas should be identified following thorough discussion amongst those concerned.

6. Photograph

