



Carrying out the Paris Agreement: Role of research communities in supporting scientific climate policy

*COP22 Side Event on
“Climate Change Capacity Building – Roles and challenges of regional training center”*

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Why capacity development is urgently needed in context of Paris Agreement? - 1

- *PA refers to importance and urgency of capacity development for LCD in relationships between developed and developing countries*
- *Every country needs to form long-term low-GHG emission development strategies, “taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances” (Article 4)*
- *Technology transfer and financing are hand-in-hand with capacity building, both of which are required to advance LCD in developing countries (Article 11)*

Why capacity development is urgently needed in context of Paris Agreement? - 2

- *Goal of developing countries is to ensure that their infrastructure development does not lock them into a high carbon development pathway*
- *Commitments should be geared towards maximising development opportunities and obligations*

Source: Nishioka, S. (2016) How to combine COP21 Agreement with “Actions”? – Statement by the International Research Network for Low Carbon Societies, Climate Edge Vol.24, 2016 / LCS-RNet (2015) COP21- A moment of truth for climate and sustainable development

Why capacity development is urgently needed in context of Paris Agreement? - 3

- *Paris Agreement leads to a new era for action and implementation towards realising low-carbon societies, where not only national governments but also **non-state stakeholders** such as **cities, local governments, businesses, financial organisations and civil society** will be focused on as actors of transition*
- ***Actual actions on the ground at all levels** will take centre stage*
- *To mobilise stakeholders, **capacity development at all levels** becomes very important*

Present circumstances and opportunities of CB for LCD in developing countries, particularly in Asia

- *Asia has crucial roles and responsibilities in terms of climate stabilisation. If current trends continue, Asia is forecast to account for **half of planet's GDP, energy consumption and CO2 emissions** in 2050*
- *Asia maintains high economic growth rates and continues to invest, being a region of countries not shackled to the high-carbon growth route of the West. It could be steered towards creating LCS*
- *The current situation presents golden opportunity for Asia to spearhead a model for low-carbon civilization*
→ *CB for supporting **developing countries' leapfrog development** should be put forward*

Role the research community and LoCARNet as a practical example - 1

- *Low Carbon Asia Research Network was established in 2012 with firm conviction that only way to accomplish development along new pathway in very short time is by **fostering domestic and within-region research communities***



Declaration of LoCARNet launch
(April 2012, Tokyo)

Role the research community and LoCARNet as a practical example - 2

- LoCARNet is open network that makes available latest research results and knowledge to researchers, policymakers and relevant stakeholders and advances discussions therewith to facilitate formulation and implementation of science-based policies for LCD in Asian region*



Low Carbon Asia Research Network



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MASUI
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Junichi FUJINO
Japan



Mikiko
KAIMUMA
Japan



Tae yong JUNG
ROK



Ucok Wrsiagian
Indonesia



Retno Gumilang
Dewi
Indonesia



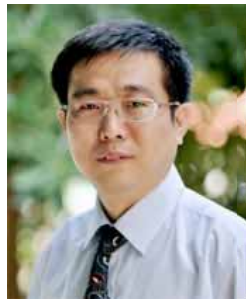
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Macandog
Philippines



Priyadarshi
SHUKLA
India



Jiang Kejun
China



Bundit
LIMMEECHOKCHAI
Thailand



Srintonthep
Towprayoon
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Indonesia



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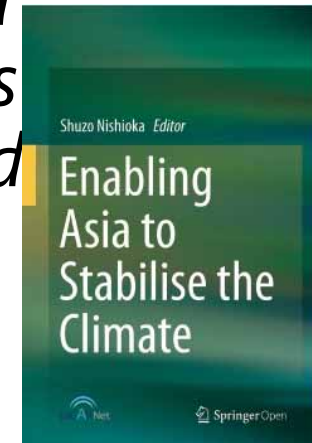
国家发展和改革委员会能源研究所
Energy Research Institute National Development And Reform Commission

Distinguishing features of LoCARNet

- LoCARNet is a **network of leading researchers, research organisations and like-minded relevant stakeholders** deeply involved in low-carbon growth policy processes in the Asian region.
- **Science-science, science-policy dialogue:** LoCARNet promotes research on policies for low-carbon growth by enabling sufficient levels of dialogue among and between scientists and policymakers.
- **Domestic ownership of knowledge:** LoCARNet encourages collaboration amongst researchers in-country whose research capacity and scientific knowledge are firmly grounded in their home countries
- **Regional south-south collaboration:** LoCARNet aims to increase research capacity in the AP region through knowledge-sharing and information exchange as part of regional cooperation - not only N-S, but also S-S cooperation

Role the research community and LoCARNet as a practical example - 3

- Since 2012, LoCARNet has arranged **33 meetings** with **2,108 participants** in total, including 14 capacity building workshops, four policy dialogues, as well as five annual meetings
- It has also conducted **joint authorship and publishing** every other year, public relations activities via **newsletters and websites**, and **supports for CITC**



Role the research community and LoCARNet as a practical example - 4

- *Yet research communities in Asia are still insufficient, positive signs have also emerged recently*

Ex. Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia – established link with science and policy, Viet Nam and Cambodia – formed / will form research communities

- *In sum, LoCARNet is not only a knowledge sharing community composed of researchers and those concerned, but has a channel and function to **bridge science to actions and implementations***

Seminar for Capacity Development for Transparency to Implement the Paris Agreement

26 October 2016, Bandung, Indonesia

1. Science base (information, data, techniques, and communities of experts), human resource foundations, and institutional foundations need to be strengthened in order to maximize the prospects for capacity building
2. developed and developing countries must reinforce their cooperation to bridge big gap between NDC and implementation
 - Policy tools, experiences, technologies, social systems, funds⇒ Chance of new development
3. Recipients of capacity development must be expanded: ex. GHG Inventories application
 - National level: NDC and MRV for policy effectiveness
 - City level: low carbon development plan and PDCA progress
 - Business & industry: carbon pricing and supply chain assessment
- 4&5. Prioritise national / local governments' policy making to avoid Lock-in
 - National policy level > infrastructure investment level > project level > public level
 - National long-term low carbon strategies -> NDC+ enhancing transparency by PDCA
 - In parallel, practical capacity development through concrete field project (e.g., JCM)
6. Mobilise research community with full country ownership for leapfrog development
 - Mainstreaming climate policy into developing policies = needs long-term maintenance by own capacity
 - Research community is responsible for leading transition for sustainable future

Conclusion

- *After COP21, all actors bear great responsibility in promoting transition*
- *Based on need for urgent transition to LCS, science-based knowledge should be widely disseminated to promote transition in effective manner, facilitating actions amongst stakeholders. Linkage between research communities and regional training centres should be further promoted*
- *Regional training centres should act not only as transmitter of knowledge, but also facilitator as 'change agent'*
- *Trainings must take form of devising project proposals and executing systematically integrated and effective actions*

Thank you very much for your kind attention!

LoCARNet Secretariat

<http://lcs-rnet.org/index.html>

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