

Suwon Conference on Low Carbon, Green Cities in North-East Asia



17-18 October 2011, Suwon City, Republic of Korea

Organized by UNESCAP and Suwon City

INTRODUCTION

Cities are the most artificial environment created by human, which rely on huge consumption of energy and natural resources to support economic and social activities.

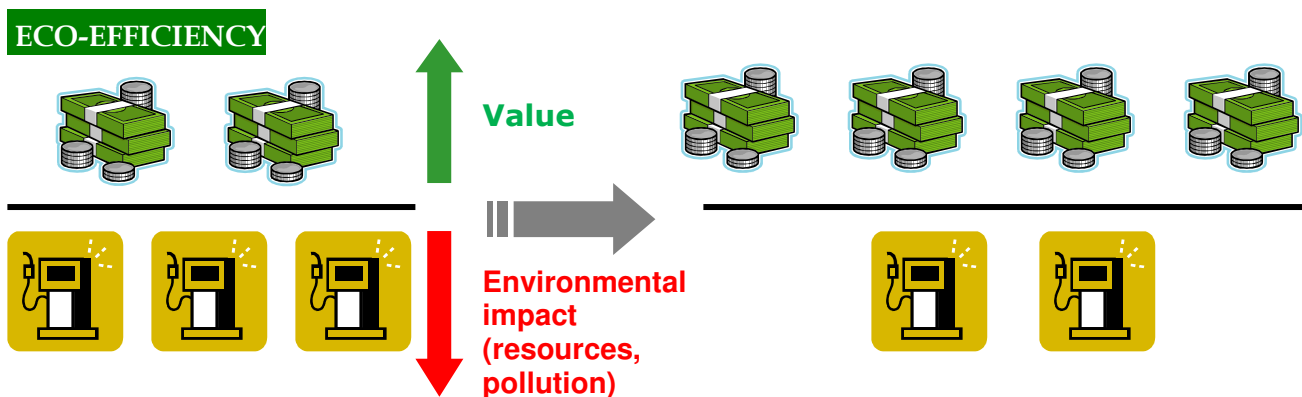


- While cities occupy only around 2 percent of the Earth surface, they concentrate 80% of economic output, consume 75 percent of energy and utilized resources¹; and emit 71% of global energy related CO₂ emissions.
- Not only are they responsible for most of the resources and energy consumption in the society, they are also a focus of a range of environmental problems.



An increasing urbanization trend in the subregion reiterates that East and North-East Asia is becoming one of the most environmentally vulnerable regions in the world.

- By 2009, more than 830 million people lived in urban areas.
- According to the World Urbanization Prospects, among the 30 largest urban agglomerations ranked by population size in 2010, eight cities come from the subregion.
- The average share of urban population will be at 69 percent in the subregion by 2020.
- In particular, the urban population level in the Republic of Korea will reach 86 percent, followed by the Russian Federation (75 percent), Japan (70 percent), Mongolia (67 percent), Democratic People's Republic of Korea (62.1 percent) and China (55 percent).

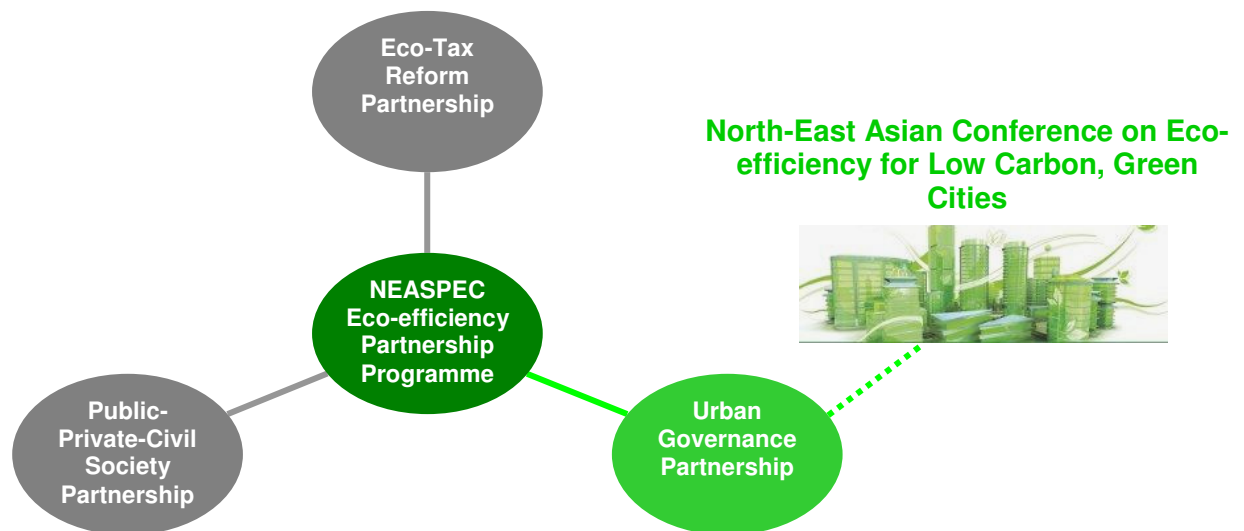


¹ UNEP. (2011). Cities: investing in energy and resource efficiency

Eco-efficiency concept has been utilized as a practical tool to maximize the productivity of energy and material inputs to economic activities and in turn to minimize ecological impacts and resource intensity.

NEASPEC ECO-EFFICIENCY PARTNERSHIP

- Based on consultation among government officials and experts under the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) ² in 2005 and 2006, promoting improvement of eco-efficiency was recognized as a key approach to decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation and nature resources depletion.
- The “Eco-efficiency Partnership” programme was launched at the 12th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-12) of NEASPEC as a subregional platform to enhance knowledge sharing among member States as well as facilitate concrete subregional cooperation for sustainable development in North-East Asia.
- One of the key components for Eco-efficiency Partnership is **Urban Governance Partnership** which considers cities as microcosms of coupled social-natural-engineered environments and as a hub for national and subregional action to steer society towards eco-efficient development pathways.



² NEASPEC was launched in 1993 as a comprehensive intergovernmental cooperation mechanism in North-East Asia covering China, Japan, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Republic of Korea (ROK) and Russian Federation to make concerted efforts to address environmental challenges in this subregion. ESCAP SRO-ENEA functions as the secretariat of NEASPEC.

Areas of Eco-efficiency Improvement in Cities

- Greening urban infrastructure
- Decarbonising energy system
- Improving environmental and carbon intensities of industry
- Facilitating sustainable consumption patterns
- Expanding green spaces and enhancing the benefit of ecosystem services
- Improving the access of underprivileged and vulnerable groups to urban services

NORTH-EAST ASIAN CONFERENCE ON ECO-EFFICIENCY FOR LOW CARBON, GREEN CITIES

It is expected that the conference will provide a good opportunity for city officials and experts to discuss the ways to harness eco-efficiency measures to promote low carbon, green cities. The conference is also expected to develop the follow-up action plans for facilitating subregional cooperation on low carbon, green cities. In particular, the key objectives are as follows.

- **Objectives**

- Discuss the technical measures and policy instruments and strategies for developing low carbon, green cities in North-East Asia
- Review the existing and planned initiatives for low carbon city development and identify good practices in North-East Asia
- Introduce eco-efficiency as an essential approach to improving sustainable development at city level and discuss the application of eco-efficiency into practices of developing low carbon, green cities in North-East Asia
- Discuss the role of cities in enhancing sustainable development in the subregion as well as in responding to national and global processes for Rio+20
- Build a partnership among North-East Asian cities for developing and implementing eco-efficiency approach at the local level

- **Expected Participants**

- City officials from selected cities in North-East Asia
- Experts from city governments, research institutes and academia
- International organizations and NGOs

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Monday, 17 October 2011	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Remark, <i>Mr. Tae Young YEOM, Mayor of Suwon City</i> • Keynote Speech: Climate change and low carbon cities in North-East Asia, <i>Mr. Kilaparti RAMAKRISHNA, Director of UNESCAP SRO-ENEA</i>
09:30 – 10:30	<p>Session 1: Policies and Strategies for Low Carbon, Green City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Mr. Jong-dall KIM, Professor, Kyungpook National University <p><u>Presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low carbon, green cities and its application to the Republic of Korea, <i>Mr. Jaejoon LEE, Vice Mayor of Suwon City</i> • The strategic framework for low carbon, green city development in China, <i>Mr. Guiyang ZHUANG, Deputy Secretary, Sustainable Development Institute, China Academy of Social Sciences</i> • Policies and practices of low carbon, green cities in Japan, <i>Ms. Ikuyo KIKUSAWA, Researcher, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies</i>
10:30 – 10:45	Tea Break
10:45 – 12:00	<p>Session 1 (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Frontier Plan to Eco Model City, <i>Mr. Teruo KOUGU, Director of Office for Environmental Future City Promotion, Environment Bureau of Kitakyushu City</i> • Development strategies of low carbon economy and urban ecology in Guangdong Province, <i>Ms. Cuiping LIAO, Research Director, Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conservation, Chinese Academy of Sciences</i> <p><i>Discussion Panel</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Chansu KANG, <i>JoongAng Daily</i> - Mr. Kwangik WANG, <i>Korea Research Insitute for Human Settlements</i>
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 16:00	<p>Session 2: Concept of Eco-Efficiency in the Context of Urban Policy</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Hoi-Seong JEONG, President, Institute for the Environment and Civilization</p> <p>Presenters:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low carbon city planning, <i>Professor, Kyu-In LEE, Ajou University</i> • Zero carbon building: approaches and cases, <i>Ms. Insun CHA, Head of Korean Division, ZedFactory Ltd</i> • GHG reduction strategies and accounting framework, <i>Mr. Wee Kean FONG, Associate GHG Protocol China, World Resources Institute Beijing Office</i> • Low carbon, green cities and renewable energy, <i>Professor Jong-dall KIM, Kyungpook National University</i> • Measuring the progress in low carbon development in China, <i>Mr. Yanyun ZHAO, Dean of School of Statistics, Renmin University of China</i> • Sustainable transport initiative for low carbon, green cities, <i>Mr. Jinyong PARK, Urban Development Specialist, Asian Development Bank</i> <p><i>Discussion Panel:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mr. Sang-Hun LEE, Professor, Hanshin University</i> - <i>Mr. Tae Kyun KIM, The Land & Housing Institute</i>
16:00 – 16:20	Tea Break
16:20 – 18:30	<p>Session 3: Local Governance for Eco-Efficiency Partnership</p> <p>Moderator: Professor Myung Rae CHO, Dankook University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for Suwon as Environmental Capital City, <i>Mr. Jeong Soo KIM, Suwon City</i> • EcoMobility and Citizen Participation, <i>Vice Mayor of Changwon City</i> • Transformation towards low carbon city infrastructure: the challenge of Yokohama, Environmental Model City, <i>Mr. Tetsuya Nakajima, Deputy Executive Director, Climate Change Policy Headquarters of Yokohama City</i> • Market mechanisms for urban energy efficiency improvement in China, <i>Mr. Douglas WHITEHEAD, Communication Officer, Global Environmental Institute</i> • Act locally and network globally: translocal collaboration in the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, <i>Mr. Taedong LEE, Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong</i> <p><i>Discussion Panel</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mr. Hong-sup CHO, The Hankyoreh</i> - <i>Ms. Jaekyung KOH, Gyeonggi Research Institute</i>
19:00 -21:00	Reception
Tuesday, 18 October 2011	
09:00 – 10:30	<p>Workshop session 1: Local Governments’ Strategies for Low Carbon, Green Cities</p> <p>Case Presentations</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China Redesign Programme and low carbon cities in China, <i>Mr. Eric WALKER, Head of Technology and Innovation, The Climate Group, Greater China Office</i> • Guangzhou City in China, <i>Mr. Peng WANG, Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conservation, Chinese Academy of Sciences</i> • Dalian City in China, <i>Mr. Yu WANG, Assistant Research Fellow, Dalian Municipal Government Development Research Center</i> • Hainan Province in China, <i>Ms. Jia HAN, Director of Administrative Office, National Institute for the South China Sea Studies</i> • Ulaanbaatar City in Mongolia. <i>Mr. ORGIL Batsukh, Environmental Specialists, Millennium Challenge Account Mongolia</i> • Ussuriysk City in Russian Federation, <i>Mr. Dmitriy SAIKO, Leading Specialist, The Centre of the Environmental Protection of Ussuriysk City</i>
10:30 – 10:50	Tea Break
10:50 – 12:30	Workshop session 2: Local Governments' Partnership for Eco-efficiency Discussion only
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 17:00	Field Visit in Suwon City

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