



North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC)

Low Carbon Cities Why North-East Asia Matters?

“By transforming how we plan our cities, build our homes and move our goods, we can usher in a low-carbon future that benefits people and the planet.”
- United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon

EAST AND NORTH-EAST ASIA (EENA) consists of 6 countries (China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the Russian Federation) with total population of 1.6 billion, and accounts for almost 1/3 of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

China, Japan and the ROK are among the world's top five importers of major fossil fuels. The subregion's high energy and carbon intensity economies require immediate actions in reducing energy consumption, where radical changes in urban development have a critical role.

CITIES are home to half of humanity and EENA's share of urban population is expected to exceed 70% by the next decade due to continuous rapid urbanization. Globally, cities contribute to emitting around 70% of GHG emissions while only covering 2% of global land area. However, because of the concentration of population and energy consumption, cities are also where more



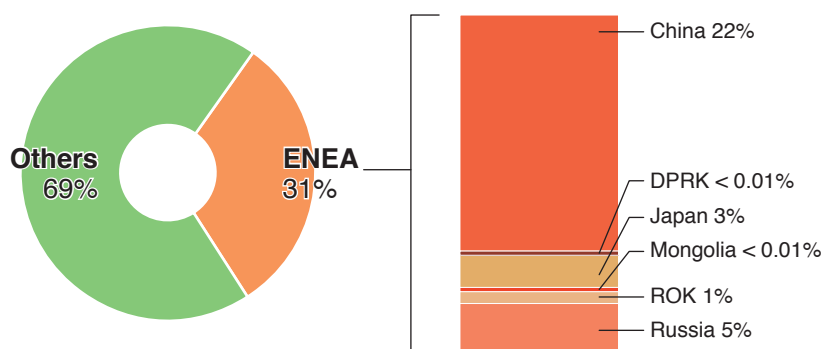
progress can be made through better urban planning and greater citizen participation.

The promotion of Low Carbon Cities (LCC) development for both new and existing cities requires a quantum shift in thinking and actions on governance, technology, finance

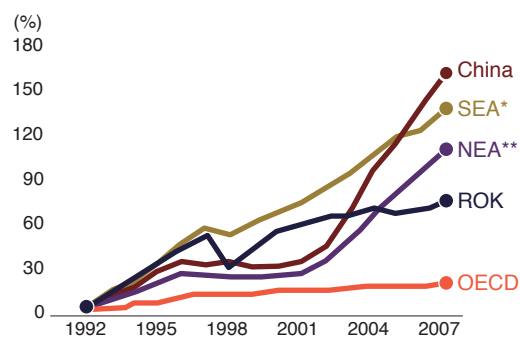
and infrastructure.

EENA being a significant GHG contributor in the world and currently undergoing rapid urbanization, implicates a clear need for the subregion to gather actors together for concerted and timely movement.

World's Total GHG Emissions including Land-Use Change and Forestry (LUCF)



CO₂ Emissions Trend



*SEA: South-East Asia, **NEA: North-East Asia

Source: WRI

NORTH-EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES' INITIATIVES ON LOW CARBON CITIES (LCC)

| CHINA | JAPAN | REPUBLIC OF KOREA |
|---|--|---|
| LEGAL POLICY / NATIONAL MEASURES FOR LCC | | |
| <p>12th Five Year Plan targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy intensity reduction by 16% • Carbon intensity reduction by 17% • Low Carbon Pilot Cities and Provinces, Pilot Low Carbon Transportation System | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill of the Basic Act on Global Warming Countermeasures (2010) • Specified Japan's strategy to build a low-carbon society • Eco-model City Programme (2008) • Future City Initiative (2010) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Low Carbon, Green Growth Basic (2010) • Urban Planning Guidelines for Low-carbon Green Growth (2009) • Climate-model city and Eco-rich City (2007) |
| GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION GOALS | | |
| <p>(Based on carbon intensity per GDP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hangzhou: 50% (2005-2020) • Jilin: 60% (2005-2030) • Shenzhen: 45% (2005-2020) • Guiyang: 45% (2005-2020) | <p>(Absolute reduction)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyoto: 40% (1990-2030) • Toyama: 30% (2005-2030) • Yushara: 50% (1990-2030) • Chiyoda: 25% (1990-2020) | <p>(Absolute reduction)</p> <p>(*Based on business as usual (BAU) targets)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seoul: 25% (1990-2020) • Suwon: 5% (2005-2015) • Kangreung*: 49% (2020) • Jeju*: 41% (2020) • Kwangju*: 40% (2020) |

LOW CARBON CITIES: ACTIONS NEEDED



NEASPEC's work on promoting Low Carbon Cities have been initiated in response to a call for stepping up actions in LCC development in the subregion and received support from member States most recently at SOM-18.

The Subregional Platform on Low Carbon Cities aims to:

- Strengthen joint efforts of the subregion in promoting Low Carbon Cities
- Address specific subregional gaps and challenges,
- Strengthen collaboration in LCC approaches within and beyond the subregion

Proposed activities include providing platform for information sharing, joint studies and assessments, strategic reviews, and capacity building.

NEASPEC was launched in 1993 as a comprehensive intergovernmental cooperation mechanism comprising all six North-East Asian countries, namely, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation.

UNESCAP-ENEA Office functions as the Secretariat.

Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) is held annually as the governing body and principal vehicle for the evolution of NEASPEC.

NEASPEC works on



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