

Low-Carbon City Plan of Iskandar, Malaysia

- LoCARNet supports its development and implementation -



Background

LoCARNet's research project on the Development of Low Carbon Society for Asian Region demonstrated how a developing country like Malaysia able can contribute to reduce CO₂ emission intensity. This project focused on the experiences and lessons from Iskandar, Malaysia, which is a fast-growing metropolitan economic growth corridor, and helped it to develop and implement a climate resilient Low carbon society blueprint including 12 action areas for regional and local authorities.



Role of LoCARNet Secretariat (IGES)

The LoCARNet Secretariat (IGES) organized an international symposium on "An alliance of CoE (Centres of Excellence) towards realising low-carbon development in Asia – How to lead science-based policymaking." The LoCARNet Secretariat (IGES) also conducted several workshops in Iskandar, Malaysia to promote collaboration between the research community and other concerned stakeholders. Researchers in Malaysia helped develop low-carbon city plans and also contributed to implementation, including promoting collaboration with local universities, governments, implementing organisations and businesses.

Low Carbon Asia Research Network (LoCARNet) is an open network of researchers, research organisations, as well as like minded relevant stakeholders that facilitates the formulation and implementation of science-based policies for low-carbon development in the Asian region. LoCARNet has encouraged researchers to come together for sharing knowledge and conducting policy support in a more effective and synergetic manners through cooperation with the local community.

Planning of Low Carbon Society Development in Iskandar Malaysia



The project gathered researchers, policy makers, the business community and related stakeholders and worked to build consensus among them to propose innovative and sustainable low carbon society solutions. The collaborative research approach in this project is unique because it gathered both international and local experts/scientists to provide scientific findings and quantitative modelling of carbon dioxide emissions to policymakers at the Iskandar Malaysia Development Authority (IRDA).

Impacts

Iskandar's low carbon society plan blueprint, in line with Malaysia's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by the year 2020, showed how urban development could incorporate meaningful actions to address climate change. The blueprint was presented at COP18, Doha, Qatar in November 2012 as a good practice of low carbon city planning, and later endorsed by Prime Minister and State government in December 2013. This blueprint consists of 12 action areas to guide development towards climate resilient development for Iskandar, Malaysia. The blueprint was then refined into a roadmap and 10 detailed priority projects to facilitate implementation by local authorities. Since the blueprint was developed with the active participation and consensus building among major stakeholders, the detailed proposed measures and programme are expected to be well-aligned with local community needs. A centre of excellence (CoE) on Low Carbon Centre Asia was established to facilitate science-based low carbon development policy development in Asia, and especially in Malaysia. LoCARNet will promote Iskandar Malaysia as a model for other urban and regional areas to develop low carbon city plans.*

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Institutes to which some of potential members of LoCARNet belong. The members are researchers that endorse the activities of the LoCARNet and any supporting group or individual.



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