

# Zero Carbon City International Forum 2023

## ❑ Organizers:

- Ministry of the Environment, Japan
  - Office of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, USA
- As an action under the "Global Subnational Zero Carbon Promotion Initiative" by Japan and United States of America*



## ❑ Co-organizers:

- ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
- Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

## ❑ Cooperation with

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat
- Urban 7 (U7)
- Designated Cities Mayors Association (JDCMA)



# Program



## Part 1: Opening and High-Level Sessions (Hybrid)

### Opening remarks

- YAMADA Miki, State Minister of the Environment, Japan
- Nina Hachigian, U.S. Special Representative for Subnational Diplomacy

### Keynote Speeches

- Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Katja Dörner, Global Executive Committee Climate Action and Low Emission Development Portfolio, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability /Lord Mayor of Bonn
- TAKEUCHI Yoshiki, Deputy Secretary-General, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

**High-level session 1: Urban transformation and the role of national government**

**High-level session 2: Cities' commitments to net zero**

**Panel discussion: Promoting urban initiatives**

## Part 2: 13th EAS High Level Seminar on Sustainable Cities (Online)

## Part 3: Thematic Sessions (Online)

# Opening and High Level Sessions

## "Multilevel governance and actions" as a driver to solve Global Sustainability Agenda

Local governments are;

- custodians of peace and democracy, and an important actor in achieving global goals -- carbon neutrality, biodiversity conservation, and the SDGs
- the contributor, promoter, and creator of synergies of climate mitigation and other sustainability agenda, such as urban resilience, biodiversity, circular economy

"Multilevel governance and actions" is the enabling condition for local governments to truly exercise its potential and the key to solve the global challenges.



# Opening and High Level Sessions

- **Participants recognized that there are growing cases of collaboration between national and local governments in addressing the global issues such as the climate change.**
  - Decarbonization leading areas (Japan), 100 carbon neutral and smart city (EU), strengthening collaboration with national and sub-national government (US), etc.
- **Participants recognized that mutual learning of such good practices of multilevel governance and actions are important for elevating effective policies and program.**
- **Expectation were raised on establishing long-term partnership between and amongst Urban7/Urban20 and G7/G20 to facilitate these process.**
- **Participants also recognized the importance of expanding these multilevel actions beyond G7/G20 and through international initiatives such as SURGe.**