

Technical cooperation agreement signed with Toyama City

IGES participated in the Toyama City-organised event "Intercity Collaboration Forum for Low Carbon Societies" held on Thursday, 14 December 2017 in Toyama, Japan, which provided a venue for the signing of a technical cooperation agreement between IGES and Toyama City aimed towards the realisation of sustainable, decarbonised development.

A recognised leader in urban environmental management, Toyama City has been awarded numerous accolades for its sustainability efforts, including being designated by the Japanese Government as an Eco-Model City in 2008 and a Future City in 2011. In 2012, it was selected as a case study for [OECD's Compact City Policies: A Comparative Assessment report](#), where it was profiled along with four other cities from around the world (Melbourne, Vancouver, Paris, Portland). In 2014, Toyama joined the Sustainable Energy for All initiative (SE4 All), and was also invited to take part in the Rockefeller Foundation's 100 Resilient Cities programme (100 RC).

The agreement follows Toyama City's increasing engagement on sustainability issues in the international arena. For instance, Toyama City hosted the G7 Toyama Environment Ministers' Meeting in 2016, at which IGES and Toyama City co-chaired a Parallel Session entitled "The Role of Cities" with international city mayors and supporting organisations, followed by IGES and Toyama City reporting on the outcomes of the session to G7 Environment Ministers. Toyama City also cooperated with IGES, a partner organisation with 100 RC, to promote city-to-city collaboration on sustainable, decarbonised development activities with Semarang, Indonesia under an initiative led by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ).

The Forum, designed to educate the public about the role of intercity collaboration in achieving the Paris Agreement on climate and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), included the participation of Mr. Yasuo Takahashi from MOEJ, Mr. Masahiko Horie from Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hendrar Prihadi, Mayor of Semarang, Mr. Boyd Jouman, Director General of Malaysia's Iskandar Development Agency, Mr. Stanley Chung, Kota Kinabalu City Planning Director, as well as approximately 150 symposium participants. IGES President Prof. Kazuhiko Takeuchi and Toyama City Mayor Mr. Mori signed the aforementioned agreement, and IGES was also on hand to witness the formalisation of a technical cooperation agreement between Toyama City and the Indonesian city of Semarang. By assisting Toyama City with advancing the SDGs as a means of guiding its transformation into a sustainable city, IGES continues to further its role as change agent across the Asia-Pacific region and throughout the world.

