Some consideration to deliver LCS from sustainable development points of view

Mikiko Kainuma

There is a development path effective for each country, but we can share the vision. Among all, it is essential to have a vision how to mitigate GHG emissions in the context of sustainable development. To realize sustainable development, actions should be taken in a bottom-up way. Combination of different approaches is required to move forward to sustainable development by taking climate actions.

Technologies that come from regional specific needs should be integrated with local natural resources. Infrastructure should be designed adequately to promote dissemination of energy-efficient technologies.

Besides large-scale technology development and transfer, local-scale technology development is important for sustainable development such as biomass cook-stoves, biogas plants for public buildings, solar cookers, and stand-alone solar PV (photovoltaic) systems. It is necessary to select and market technologies that are effective for local way of living. For this the technologies would have to: (i) contribute to economic livelihoods of local communities, and (ii) integrate with local natural resource base.

Training local youth/women is very important. Local youth/women must be equipped to take up entrepreneurial services for design, manufacturing, assembly, delivery and post-installation maintenance of new technology systems.

It is also important to provide logistical systems to support prompt availability of parts, components and equipments required for such technologies to work efficiently at the local levels. These logistical systems need to link centralized, urban sources of designing and manufacturing components/equipments to decentralized, local points of assembly, delivery, installation and maintenance of end-use technologies.

There is another point relating to local development of technologies: the existing policy regime of international trade and Intellectual property rights (IPR) may need to be re-examined (since existing policy may not facilitate easy transfer of know-how to developing countries). Thus R&D capability in developing countries may need to be strengthened.

For such local-scale technology development to work effectively, the government must provide crucial policy support to establish initial infrastructure base comprising technical resources, training facilities, and transportation and logistics networks. It is also important to provide 'financing services' to local entrepreneurs so that they can easily make investments required to start development, assembly, delivery or maintenance activities locally.