

## **Integrating LCS Concept into SD Strategy in All Countries**

The concept of SD focusing on poverty reduction and capacity development of especially the poor, ever since introduced by the Commission on Environment and Development in 1986, has been endorsed by all member states of the United Nations and become a key concept in the mainstream of national and international development.

Today a new concept of Low Carbon Society (LCS) has been proposed by many countries including the United Kingdom and Japan, in the context of exploring into Post-Kyoto international arrangements for climate change up to 2050. To deliver LCS through SD, all countries, both developed and developing, are expected to do their level best in integrating LCS concept into their respective national SD strategies as well as the international SD strategy for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

It is understood that because of vast differences not only between developed and developing but also within them in the stage of economic, social and political development, economic growth rates, resources endowment and ecological conditions, the major concerns of SD, while observing commonality, are different among countries, allowing different priorities and approaches toward SD and LCS. Today most of what is once called national environmental issues such as air, water, soil pollution and hazardous industrial wastes have become global under the on-going pressures of economic, social and political globalization. Climate change, along with deforestation and trans-boundary emission such as acid rain, sandstorms and haze, has increasingly become serious, threatening not only the economic prospects of countries concerned but also the ecological conditions of the planet Earth. It is therefore a global imperative for all countries to take immediate actions to prevent the adverse impact of climate change through adaptation and mitigation and facilitate to achieve SD by transforming their economic activities and lifestyles into lower carbon intensity and build a LCS. Developed countries, as major sources of GHG emission, have an international responsibility for transforming as soon as possible their own countries into LCSs, while advanced developing countries and other developing countries could follow under the internationally agreed principle of "Common but Differentiated Responsibility.". Expanded international cooperation in technological transfer/development and finance, involving all stakeholders concerned around the world, is essential to assist all those developing countries in delivering LCS through SD.

