



# International Research Network for Low Carbon Societies

To assist countries **integrating research into  
policy-making process** towards LCS

## Low-Carbon Society Research in Asia

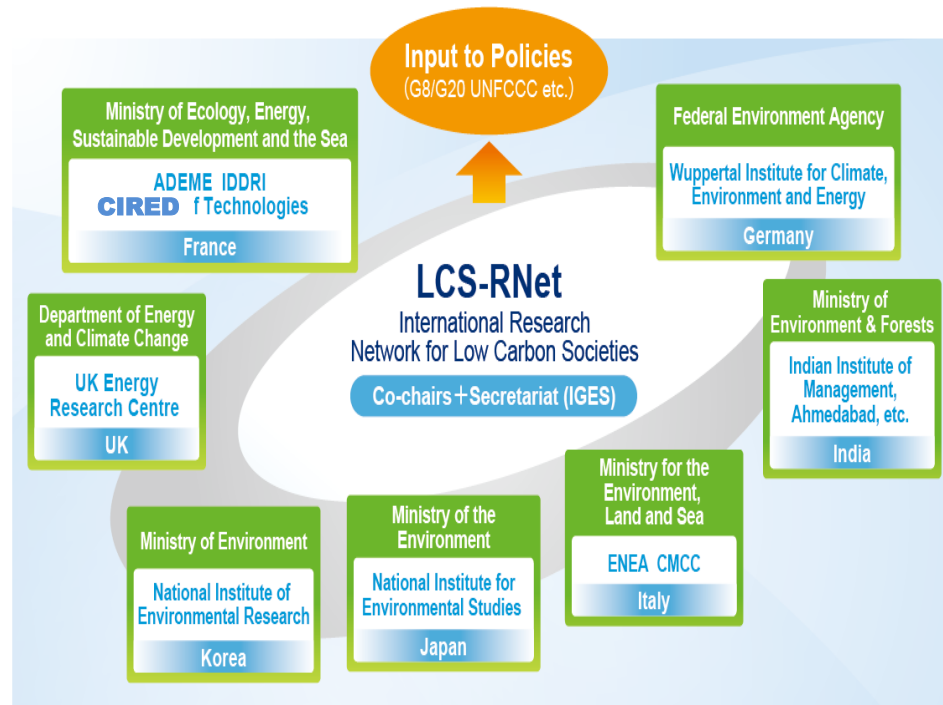
Malaysian Workshop on Asian Low Carbon Society  
Research Network

4-5 July 2011

Johore Bahru, Malaysia

**Shuzo Nishioka**

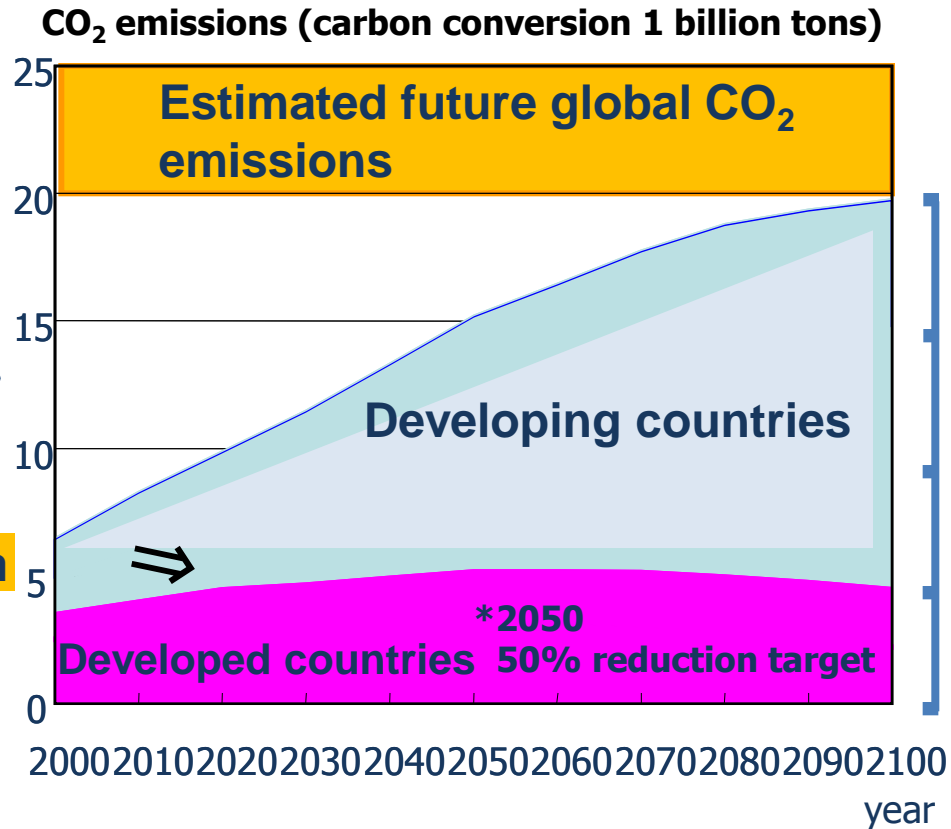
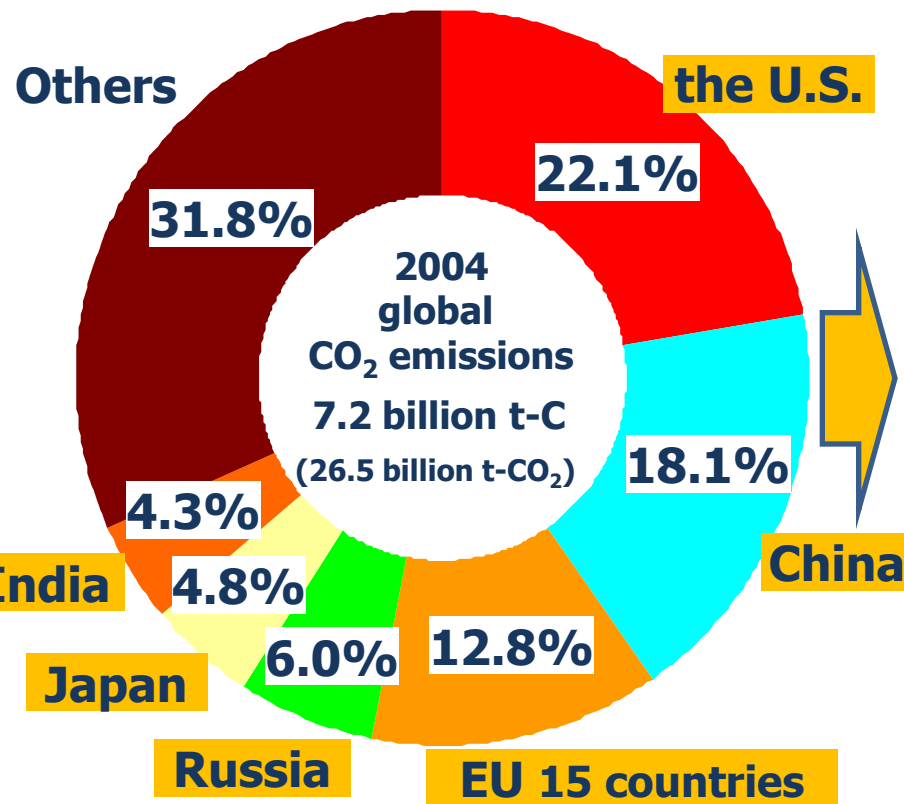
LCS-RNet Secretariat/IGES



- The importance of LCS in Asia
- Activities of LCS-RNet and its findings in Asia
- National and local actions

# Cooperation with developing countries is key

## - As significant worldwide reduction is essential



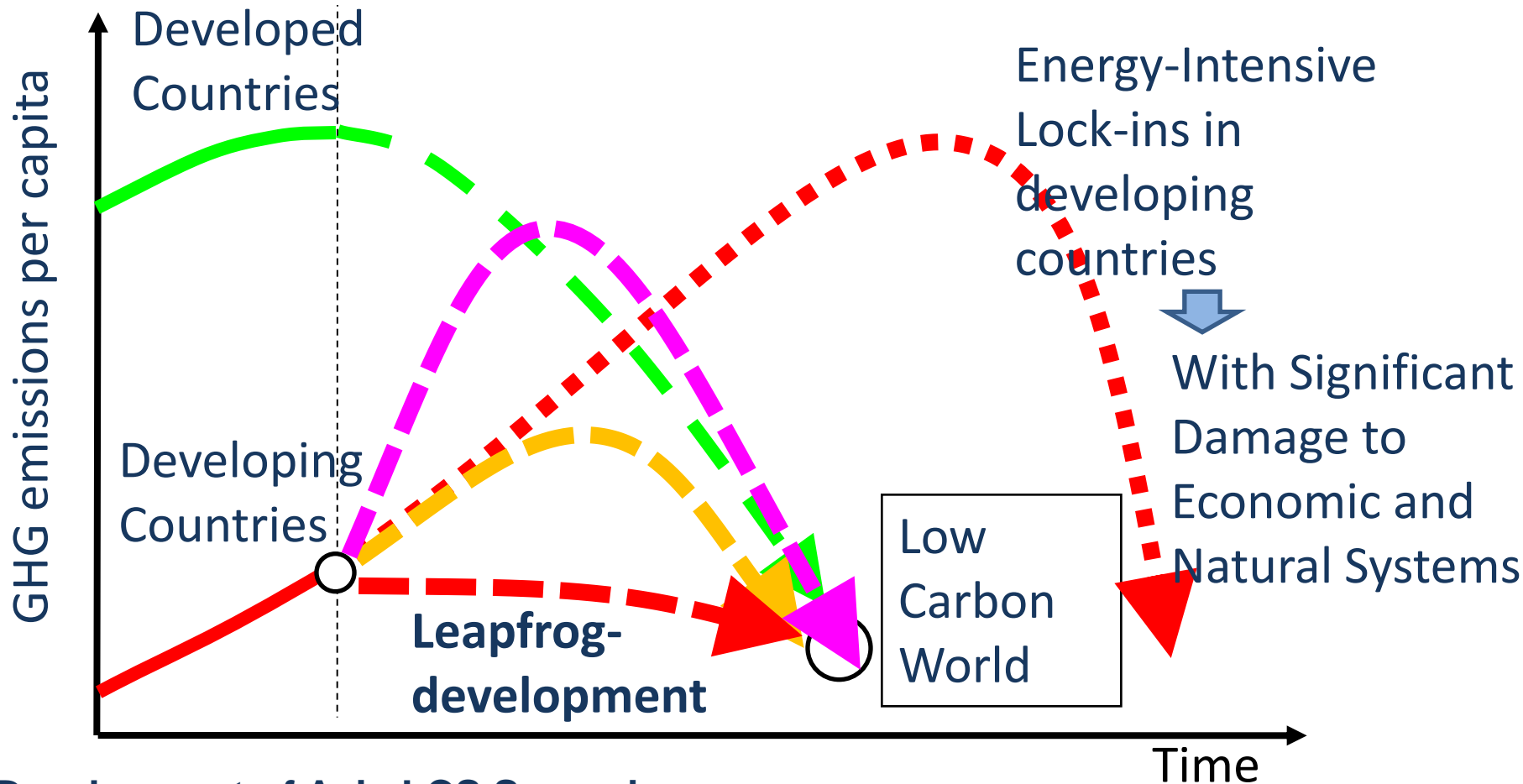
Made by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan based on Energy & Economics Statistics in Japan (2007 version)

Sources: Kainuma et al., 2002: Climate Policy Assessment, Springer, p.64.

**Kyoto Protocol framework for period subsequent to first commitment period (2013 onwards)**

- *An effective framework capable of promoting maximum efforts to reduce emissions by non-signatory U.S. and exempt developing major emitter nations such as India and China is needed.*

# Asian LCS scenario studies



## Development of Asia LCS Scenarios

- (1) Developing narratives for LCS scenarios
- (2) Quantifying future LCS visions
- (3) Developing robust roadmaps



Policy Packages for Asia LCS

- Encouraging the framing of LC policy in each Asian country
- Assistance for international negotiations scientific basis
- Networking among LCS research in Asia

# LCS-RNet

## -Low Carbon Society Research Network-

Researchers' network who dedicate to governmental policy making process to reach a Low Carbon Society responding to G8 and world leaders' requirements

- 16 institutions from France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, UK
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting (2010, Berlin): 88 participants from **57 institutions from 23 countries** (including BRICs, Indonesia, South Africa) and 2 IGOs

From findings of 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting in Berlin 2010

- Inter-linkages among society's components must be understood.
- Technologies and R&D alone cannot attain LCS.
- Modelling implications and limitations must be correctly understood



<http://lcs-rnet.org/>



# Activities and Publications



**1st Annual Meeting**  
12-13 October 2009  
Bologna, Italy



**2nd Annual Meeting**  
Sept. 2010, Berlin, Germany

**3rd Annual Meeting**  
Oct. 2011, Paris, France



**Policy Dialogue:**  
Sustainable and Low-Carbon  
Development in Indonesia and Asia  
16-17 February 2010  
Bogor, Indonesia

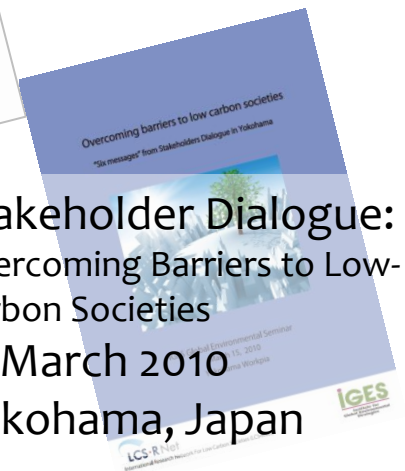
Series of policy-research  
dialogue workshops on Asian  
Low Carbon Development

Indonesia  
Thailand, Cambodia,  
Vietnam, Malaysia

**Annual Report:**  
Low Carbon Society Research  
March 2010

**Expert Meeting**  
Stakeholder Dialogue  
on Low Carbon  
Societies  
26-27 June 2009  
Hayama, Japan

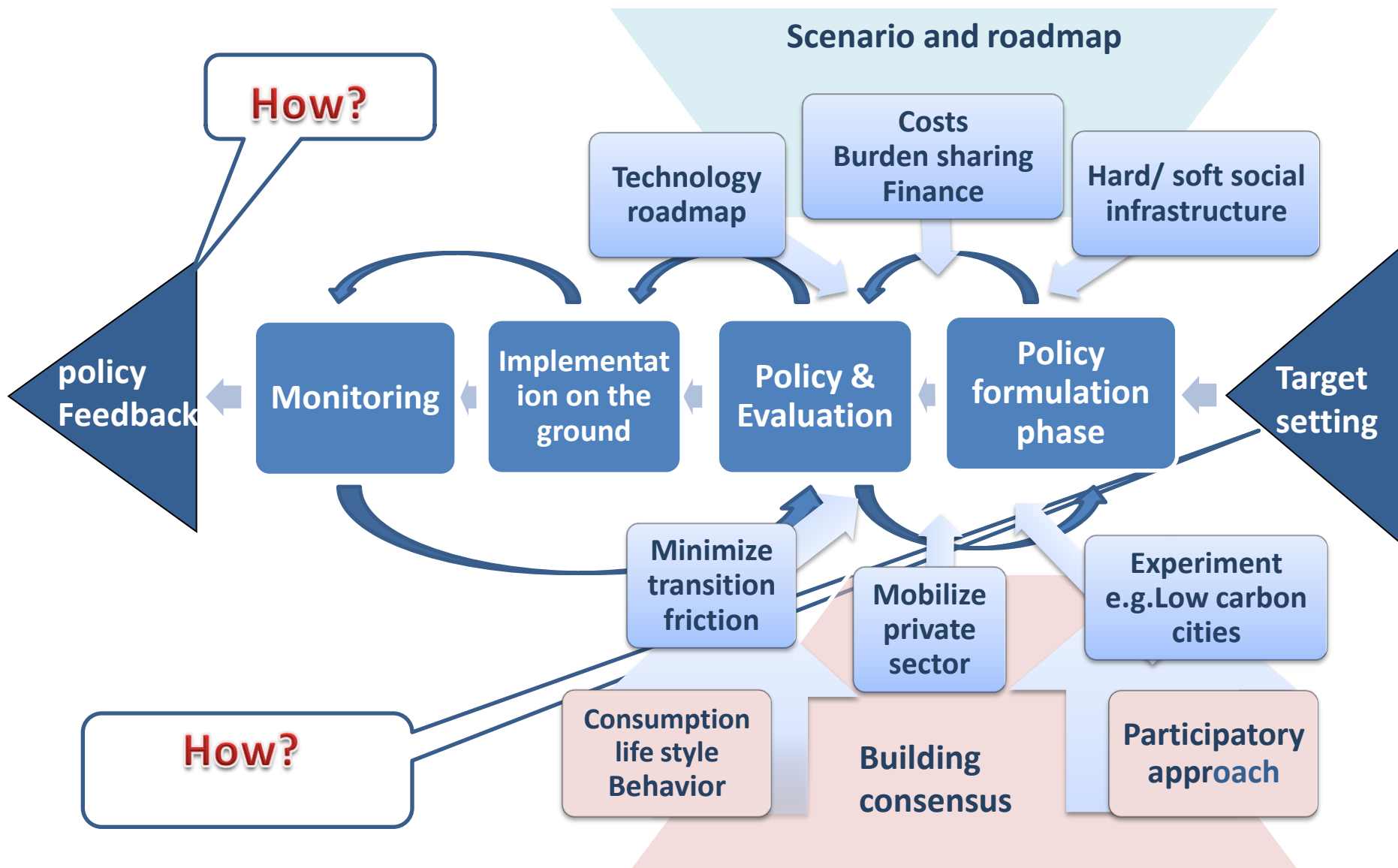
**Stakeholder Dialogue:**  
Overcoming Barriers to Low-  
Carbon Societies  
15 March 2010  
Yokohama, Japan





# Formulation of LCS

## - To make real progress



# Activities with countries in Asia by the LCS-RNet Secretariat/IGES

## Dialogue between Policy-makers and researchers

- to identify research needs to support LCS policy -

Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam  
Malaysia (July 2011)

## LCS-RNet fellowship

- To provide opportunities to learn methods and tools for LCS policy-making, develop local LCS scenarios  
India, Indonesia, Thailand  
Cambodia (scheduled in 2011)

**- to improve national and local level capacity to develop science based LCS policy of their own -**

## LCS model capacity-building WSs

NIES/Kyoto Univ builds capacity for AIM in China, South Korea, Vietnam, India, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia (July 2011)

## Interviews with policy-makers and researchers

China, Republic of Korea, Vietnam, India, Cambodia



# *In Asia*

## Strong commitments of governments towards LCS

- Governments are considering LCS as an opportunity
- Technology transfer, international finance, capacity-building for their SD
- Governments are showing a strong policy signal towards LCS
- Governments are willing to develop science-based policy-making

## Diversity amongst countries in the region

- Due to the different stages of development, various geopolitical and graphical conditions, policies and target areas are varied and country-specific.
- No common generalised approach/policy can be applicable to different country
- Learning good practice from other countries is important when capacity is limited.

### **Background: After Copenhagen**

#### **Developed countries**

- ✳ Working on domestic legislation to fulfill international commitments, facing difficulty to gain public acceptance

#### **Developing countries – both of major emitting countries and others**

- ✳ Recognizing Sustainable Green Growth/Development must be the core of the national development plans

# ***Key Findings - 1 -***

## **Inventories can provide a strong basis for a scientific approach**

- Countries that develop reliable inventories could be in a good position for CDM.
- As a next step, cooperation between researchers and policy makers is urgently required for research agenda setting.
- Lack of reliable activity data is a barrier for developing LCS scenarios.

## **Low carbon is not just about energy**

- Major emission sources/target areas are;
  - Energy
  - Agriculture and Forestry
  - Transportation

## **Both adaptation and mitigation are important**

- Adaptation is still given a priority in most countries
- For the effective use of limited resources, coordination of adaptation and mitigation policies is necessary.
- In urban areas, co-control of air pollution and GHGs is called for. Pollution control measures can be a good entry point to mitigate GHGs.

# ***Key Findings - 2 -***

## **Localization of transferred technology is necessary**

- Technical know-how to support the localization of such technologies, as well as infrastructure changes for LCS, are important.

## **Decentralization is a key for various reasons**

- Tradition of its political system (e.g. Indonesia)
- For energy supply – it is a way to improve the access to electricity promoting off-grid system using biofuels.
- For strategic national development plan
  - Sound agriculture community is important for the national development plan to become a food commodity supplier to neighboring countries (India, Cambodia), as well as to avoid problems of urbanization in big cities by keeping people in the agriculture communities for some countries

## **Innovative governance is called for**

- Coordination of land use and energy policies and supporting institutional arrangement is needed.
- Inter-ministerial coordination is needed.

# ***Key Findings - 3 -***

## **Traditional values to promote LCS**

- Sufficiency economy (Thailand) and “Mottainai” (Japan) as examples of traditional wisdom for the sustainable utilization of natural resource
- Mitigation in forestry sector: depend on the social system and local voluntary actions.

## **Coordination is a key in many ways**

- Inter-ministerial coordination of LCS policy is necessary (i.e. land-use policies)
- Cooperation between policy and research communities

## **Sub-national level initiatives are important**

- Since agriculture, forests and natural resources are target areas for mitigation, knowledge of local people for adaptation and natural resource management are important in designing mitigation.

# *Conclusion*

- The time is now to avoid carbon-intensive lock-ins and enable low carbon leapfrogs in Asia.
- Data and methods for inventorying GHGs, particularly from cities, are needed.
- Policy signals from central governments, supported by local initiatives, are becoming more visible in Asia.
- There is no one-size-fits-all LCS: policies and scenarios need to be tailored to local contexts.
- LCS is a two way street: LCS research should inform policy, experiences with policies should inform research.
- Innovative governance with the institutional coordination (horizontal and vertical) must be sought.

	South Korea	China	India	Indonesia	Thailand	Vietnam	Cambodia
<b>Appendix I &amp; II of CA and NAMA</b>	30 % GHG reduction by 2020 (from BAU scenario)	Voluntary lower CO2 emissions per unit of GDP by 40-45% by 2020 (2005 level)	Reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 20-25% by 2020 (2005 level)	Voluntary reduce emissions by 26% in 2020 (from BAU) or 41% if international fund available	-	-	-
<b>NAMA</b>	Positive	Positive, No international MRV	Positive, MRV with the external fund	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive
<b>Legislation</b>	Framework Act on Low Carbon, Green Growth (2009)	12 <sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan	National Action Plan for Climate Change (2008)	National Action Plan Regional AP	11th National Development Plan		National Strategic Development Plan
<b>Institutional support particularly for LCS</b>	◎ Led by the Presidential Committee on Green Growth	○	×	×	×	×	×
<b>Policy/focused areas</b>	Cap-and-trade with targets	Domestic Emission Trading for Energy and Environment non-fossil fuels, forest coverage and stock	Carbon tax,, EE, transportation Star system for EE PAT(Performance Achievement and Trade )	Sustainable peatland and land use management EE, renewable, transportation	Crown Standard for EE for cities,		Decentralisation and deconcentration strategy
<b>Coordination with other policies</b>	○Combined foreign policy and resource security			○	○	○	○

	Korea, Republic of	China	India	Indonesia	Thailand	Vietnam	Cambodia
Socio-economic consideration	○	Gradually year	○Low Carbon Strategy for Inclusive Growth as Indian version of green growth	○	○	○	○
Local level initiative		Pilot City Programme Gaps amongst provinces	Pilot City Programme	Gaps amongst provinces			
Private sector involvement	○	○	○				
Technology focus and considerations		Clean coal technology, nuclear, solar and solar heater, other renewables	EE and solar, building  Potential of nuclear may be not so high	Off-grid energy self-sufficient system in rural area	Nuclear	Off grid, decentralized supply system	Decentralized supply system
Approach	Top-down with participatory approach	Top-down or combination	Top-down or combination  NGOs play important roles for Bottom-up	Decentralized administration system	Top-down or combination, Sufficiency economy Traditional resource management	Top-down	Top-down



# LCS-RNet

## 5 year plan

1. Management of the Network
2. Scientific Policy Recommendations
3. Development of LCS Researches
4. Capacity Building of Developing Countries
5. Public Relations

