

# CLIMATE CHANGE

## Research focuses on the post-2012 climate regime and co-benefits for the development of a sustainable, low-carbon society in the Asia-Pacific.

The Asia-Pacific region is home to the world's fastest growing emitters of greenhouse gases (GHGs). The region is also increasingly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of global warming. Therefore, addressing global climate change is an urgent task in the Asia-Pacific. At the same time, many countries in the region face serious developmental challenges such as poverty eradication and food security. Thus, the IGES Climate Change Group will conduct strategic policy research on how developing countries in Asia can meet basic needs, while simultaneously making progress toward sustainable low carbon development. The Group will further examine how Asia-Pacific's developed countries, including Japan, can achieve sustainable low carbon development.

To support these objectives, the Climate Change Group will propose options to engage countries in the Asia-Pacific in the formulation of a future climate change regime that reflects their development aspirations. The Group will further make policy recommendations on key climate change institutions at the domestic and international levels. At the domestic level, studies will focus on economic instruments, including tax systems and emission trading schemes, as well as sectoral policies that can maximise co-benefits. At the international level, research will concentrate on Measurable, Reportable and Verifiable (MRV) framework for Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) and the effective implementation of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under a post-2012 climate regime.

\* Strategic research on climate change adaptation issue is carried out by the IGES Natural Resources Management Group.



## RESEARCH COMPONENTS

### ☑ Sustainable low carbon development in emerging Asian countries

- Examination of how domestic institutions promote or inhibit sustainable low carbon development in China, India and Indonesia
- Analysis of enabling conditions that promote low-carbon technology leap-frogging in China, India and Indonesia
- Identify and review of traditional values and practices in Asia which promote low carbon development

### ☑ Post-2012 climate regime

- Comparative studies of emission reduction pledges by major economies (including developing and developed countries)
- Examination of how domestic factors (e.g., political systems, social and economic variables, energy mix) in China and India influence international negotiation positions on key elements of the future climate regime
- Identification of policy options to enhance the participation of emerging Asian economies in the future climate regime
- Contribution to domestic and international policy processes related to the future climate change regime (e.g. organising side-events and workshops, participating in advisory committees, and providing inputs at high-level meetings)



ISAP 2010 Expert Workshop: Is Asia in a Good Position to Achieve Sustainable Low Carbon Development? (Jul. 2010, Yokohama, Japan)



IGES Open Forum: Towards Low Carbon Societies: what is needed after Cancun? (Feb. 2011, Tokyo, Japan)

### ☑ MRV [Measurable, Reportable, and Verifiable] system

- Identification and analysis of varying country positions in international negotiations on an MRV system
- Examination of implementation challenges for MRV systems in selected Asian countries
- Analysis of proposals for international mechanisms for implementing an international MRV framework

### ☑ Carbon constraints and private sector

- Analysis of how economic approaches, including emission trading scheme and carbon taxes, affect the international competitiveness of Japanese companies
- Study on how carbon constraints impact the decision-making of Japanese companies and the development strategy of Japan

### ☑ Co-benefits approach in Asia

- Quantification of co-benefits from development policies in Asia, especially in the transportation, buildings and waste management sectors.
- Analysis of opportunities and barriers to using a co-benefits approach to mainstream climate concerns in developmental policies in Asia



ISAP 2010 Expert Workshop: Expert Review of Transportation Co-benefits Guidelines (TCG) (Jul. 2010, Yokohama, Japan)

### ☑ Market mechanisms

The Group promotes CDM projects in selected Asian countries through the capacity building of practitioners. The group also analyses how market mechanisms can help countries achieve sustainable development.

>> For details, please refer to the IGES Market Mechanism Group leaflet.

### International Research Network for Low Carbon Societies [LCS-RNet]

The Climate Change Group serves as Secretariat of the International Research Network for Low Carbon Societies (LCS-RNet) for researchers. LCS-RNet takes a solution-oriented approach that recognises the need for strategies for ambitious targets and practical measures at all levels of society to realise low carbon societies. The Network was established with the support of the G8 Environmental Ministers Meeting, aiming to assist countries integrating research into policy-making process to towards low carbon societies.

>> For details, please refer to <http://lcs-rnet.org>.



<http://lcs-rnet.org>

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

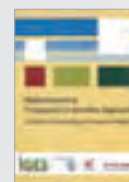
### Reports & Papers

- Mainstreaming Transport Co-benefits Approach: A Guide to Evaluating Transport Projects (Mar. 2011)
- Negotiating a Low Carbon Transition in Asia: NAMAs and MRV (Mar. 2011)
- Measurable, Reportable and Verifiable (MRV): Trends and Developments in Climate Change Negotiations (Dec. 2010)



### IGES White Paper

- Second IGES White Paper "Climate Change Policies in the Asia-Pacific: Re-uniting Climate Change and Sustainable Development" (Jun. 2008)



## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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