



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

# **The Concept of the Low-Carbon Town in the APEC Region**

**Sixth Edition**

**Executive Summary**

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APEC Low-Carbon Model Town (LCMT) Project - Phase 6

Produced by

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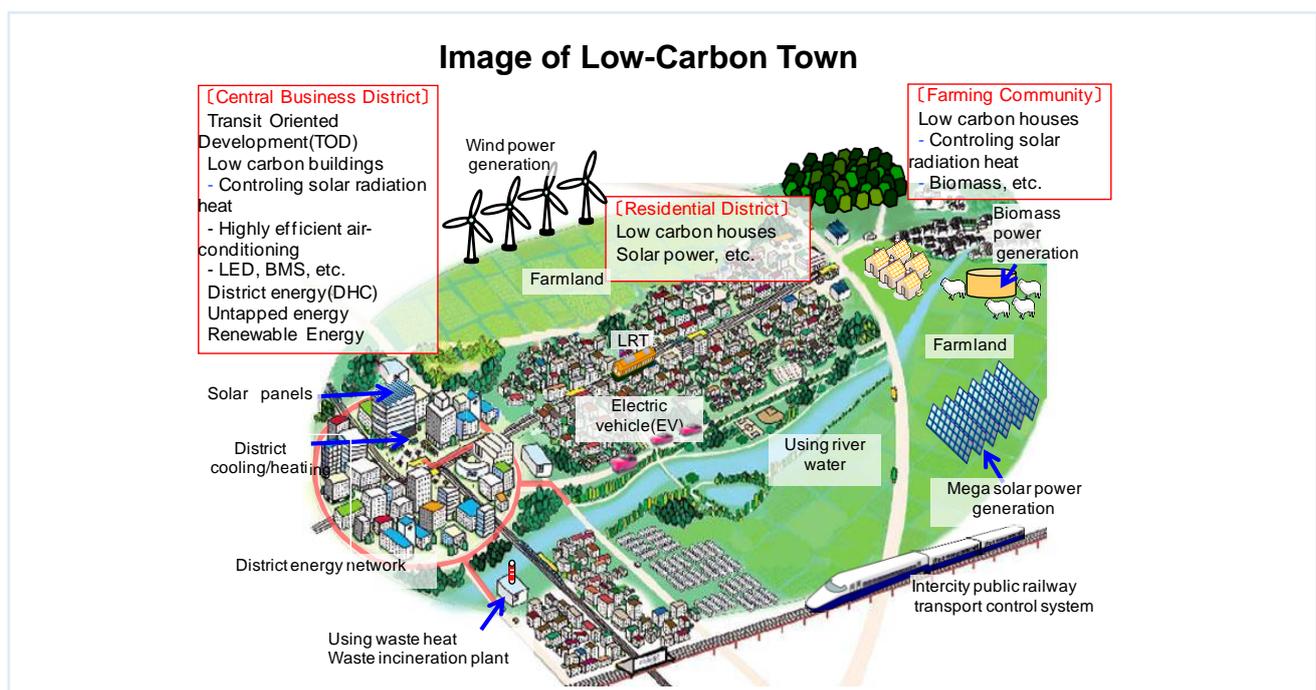
## APEC Low-Carbon Model Town Project

At the 9<sup>th</sup> APEC Energy Ministers Meeting (EMM9), which was held in Fukui, Japan on 19 June 2010, focusing on the theme 'Low-carbon Paths to Energy Security', the Ministers observed that the 'introduction of low-carbon technologies in city planning to boost energy efficiency and reduce fossil energy use is vital to manage rapidly growing energy consumption in urban areas of APEC'. Responding to this observation, they called for the APEC Energy Working Group (EWG) to implement an APEC Low-Carbon Model Town (LCMT) Project 'to encourage creation of low-carbon communities in urban development plans and share best practices for making such communities a reality'.

The main objective of the APEC LCMT Project is CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction. While local government and municipal officials are increasingly interested in developing low-carbon towns (LCT), their main concerns are often alleviating urban problems, such as traffic congestion, air/water pollution, waste management and recycling used water. As such, these towns require some level of technical assistance to systematically plan and realise LCT development. This includes setting quantitative low-carbon targets and base years, adopting low-carbon indicator sets, selecting the most appropriate set of low-carbon measures considering the characteristics of the intended town, and evaluating the effects of the low-carbon measures adopted.

### The Concept of the Low-Carbon Town in the APEC Region (Concept)

The concept provides a basic idea of what is a low-carbon town and an effective approach to its development. The concept aims to promote the development of low-carbon towns in the APEC region by providing a basic principle that can assist the central and local government officials of the member economies in planning effective low-carbon policies and in formulating an appropriate combination of low-carbon measures while taking socio-economic conditions and city-specific characteristics into consideration.



The concept consists of:

**Volume I: Main Chapter** (72 pages)

Overview of the concept, including basic approach to develop the LCT, Measures to use in the development of LCT and evaluation of the effect of low-carbon measures

**Volume II: Low-Carbon Measures** (81 pages)

Low-carbon measures with their applicability and case examples

In tandem with the concept, the **APEC Low-Carbon Town Indicator (LCT-I) System Guideline** has been developed. The LCT- I System is a self-assessment tool to assess and monitor the progress of each LCT development project that is based upon the concept. The users can easily carry out an assessment with the attached LCT-I evaluation sheet as it was designed as simple as possible.

