



Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Urban Development

16 September 2022, Friday,
3:15–4.30 p.m. Manila Time (GMT+8)
Zoom



This online knowledge-sharing event presented the experiences of two Asian Development Bank (ADB)-supported cities in Asia and the Pacific in their pursuit of good practices and innovation for integrating low carbon and climate resilience into development agenda.

Thuy Trang Dang shared the Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA) of Baguio City in the Philippines, while Allen Zhang discussed the holistic approach taken to achieve a climate-friendly and resilient city of Xiangtan in the People's Republic of China.

Maria Pia Ancora and Pedro Almeida provided insights on challenges and opportunities for low-carbon and climate-resilient development for cities in Central and West Asia, and South Asia. Arghya Sinha Roy shared an upcoming knowledge product being developed by ADB's Urban Sector

Group and the Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Division focusing on practical guidance on climate-resilient future for city governments.

Targets are set for reducing carbon emissions at a national level, but some major challenges in implementing low-carbon projects are policy integration and capacity building at the city level. ADB's role is important to involve policymakers at the early stage, support finance, and foster innovation for climate resilience.

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Hunan Innovative Low Carbon Center

SPEAKERS



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MODERATOR

KEY MESSAGES

- ADB has provided support to Baguio City on climate risk modeling, carbon footprint assessment, infrastructure investment planning, and capacity-building. The CRVA approach explored climate and disaster risk and priorities for existing and future investments using the lens of low-carbon and climate-resilient development. The CRVA results provided the city with the necessary basis for prioritizing impactful projects, using a programmatic approach, with clear financing strategies that generate maximum co-benefits.
- Xiangtan Low Carbon Transformation for a Livable City project, also supported by ADB, adopted an integrated program design that involves all actors or stakeholders of the project. ADB and the city government took time to establish a shared understanding of the project and ensure adequate capacity to implement its goals. With a strong focus on scientific knowledge for better decision-making, integrated planning, better use of smart technology, and nature-based solutions, the vision of a low-carbon and resilient Xiangtan City is now taking shape.
- Key challenges for implementing low-carbon and climate-resilient development in ADB developing member countries in Central and West Asia include achieving buy-in from counterparts, especially in finance ministries, and securing finance. It is key to show how climate change investments can achieve tangible economic benefits and other co-benefits. ADB can play a role in bringing in innovative climate solutions, analytical tools, methodologies, and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission inventories for local authorities, while strengthening dialogues with national governments.
- Similarly, in South Asia, the focus on providing basic services does not always adequately incorporate the long-term benefits of low-carbon and climate-resilient development. ADB's discussions with government counterparts sought to identify common problems and innovative solutions that strengthen policies and processes for low-carbon and climate-resilient development, including nature-based solutions.
- Adopting a 'One ADB' approach which incorporates multi-disciplinary inputs from across ADB has provided an opportunity to steer project pipelines toward low-carbon and climate-resilient development at early stages.
- By December 2022, ADB will release a series of knowledge products with practical guidance on how cities can downscale nationally determined contributions and priorities, develop GHG baselines, and undertake climate risk and adaptation assessments to inform development of spatial plans, climate investment plans, and low-carbon and climate-resilient projects.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Helping the Philippines' Baguio City Smarten Up Against Disasters

<https://www.adb.org/news/features/helping-philippines-baguio-city-smarten-against-disasters>

\$200 Million in ADB Loans to Demonstrate a Low-Carbon and Resilient City Growth Model in Xiangtan PRC

<https://www.adb.org/news/200-million-ADB-loans-demonstrate-low-carbon-and-resilient-city-growth-model-xiangtan-prc>

Building Resilience of the Urban Poor

<https://www.adb.org/news/videos/building-resilience-urban-poor>