



ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION



สถาบันเพิ่มผลผลิตแห่งชาติ
THAILAND PRODUCTIVITY INSTITUTE

BANGKOK OUTCOME DOCUMENT

International Asia EnviroEconomics Conference on Concerted Efforts for a Sustainable Future through 24-Hour Eco Life

8–10 June 2016



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THE INTERNATIONAL ASIA ENVIROECONOMICS CONFERENCE: CONCERTED EFFORTS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE THROUGH 24-HOUR ECO LIFE, HELD 8-10 JUNE IN BANGKOK, WAS ATTENDED BY DELEGATES REPRESENTING THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION. THE CONFERENCE WAS ORGANIZED BY THE ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION (APO), FOUNDATION FOR THAILAND PRODUCTIVITY INSTITUTE, AND FEDERATION OF THAI INDUSTRIES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ECO PRODUCTS INTERNATIONAL FAIR 2016, INVOLVING 18 INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS AND LOCAL SPEAKERS AND 193 PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING 34 INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES REPRESENTING 17 APO MEMBER COUNTRIES.

This document reflects the strong commitment of the APO through its strategic direction of Green Productivity (GP) for the Asia-Pacific region and beyond to making a positive contribution to the achievement of a sustainable, low-carbon future ordained by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015 and the Paris Climate Agreement adopted in December 2015.

Delegates to this conference agree that we have already reached planetary and social limits and are fully committed to the promotion of a major policy change for win-win synergy between the economy and the environment. These two points represent the long-term business and environmental sustainability goals critical for the transformation necessary to achieve the SDGs by 2030 as a new development agenda.

We recognize that various initiatives from the region such as the sufficiency economy and low-carbon society can play an important role in promoting key elements of the transformation necessary for the achievement of the SDGs, such as sustainable consumption and production, eco-lifestyles, ethical consumption, climate action, sustainable smart green cities and communities, and multifunctional business models for GP.

We also recognize the important role public policy can play in creating an enabling policy framework in the area of education, awareness, setting standards and criteria, and promotion of IT and renewable energy, particularly in closing the gap between short-term economic priorities and long-term goals of sustainable development and mitigating the effects of climate change.

In pursuing a sustainable, low-carbon future, the Green Industrial Revolution (GIR) has already started, replacing the Second (fossil fuel) Industrial Revolution that occurred from the turn of the 20th to the 21st century. For some experts, the GIR is a “leapfrog” called the Third Industrial Revolution based on digital and WiFi technologies. The reason was made apparent at the Asia

EnviroEconomics Conference because both “smart” technologies and “green” systems are an equal part of the GIR for sustainable and renewable energy, which can be combined to build “smart green communities.” Almost every presentation noted that the integration of smart and green was needed for people, communities, businesses, cities, and nations.

A critical outcome of the Asia EnviroEconomics Conference was agreement that government leaders and decision makers must recognize the need for an economic paradigm change. It is imperative to move away from conventional economic theory focusing on short-term supply and demand toward new economics focusing on long-term investment in people and the planet. Governments at all levels, people, and businesses must work together to ensure that such investment delivers vibrant economic growth and more jobs, social inclusion, and ecological sustainability. Various social and economic stakeholders need to share the common goal of respecting social and planetary limits, thus mitigating climate change and promoting achievement of the SDGs.

Delegates attending this conference agree to take following urgent actions as part of our commitment to promoting the strategic direction of GP as a way to achieve the SDGs. We will work globally to reduce, reverse, and resolve climate change issues, starting at home.

A CRITICAL OUTCOME OF THE ASIA ENVIROECONOMICS CONFERENCE WAS AGREEMENT THAT GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND DECISION MAKERS MUST RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR AN ECONOMIC PARADIGM CHANGE. IT IS IMPERATIVE TO MOVE AWAY FROM CONVENTIONAL ECONOMIC THEORY FOCUSING ON SHORT-TERM SUPPLY AND DEMAND TOWARD NEW ECONOMICS FOCUSING ON LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN PEOPLE AND THE PLANET.

SUSTAINABLE SMART GREEN COMMUNITIES AND CITIES

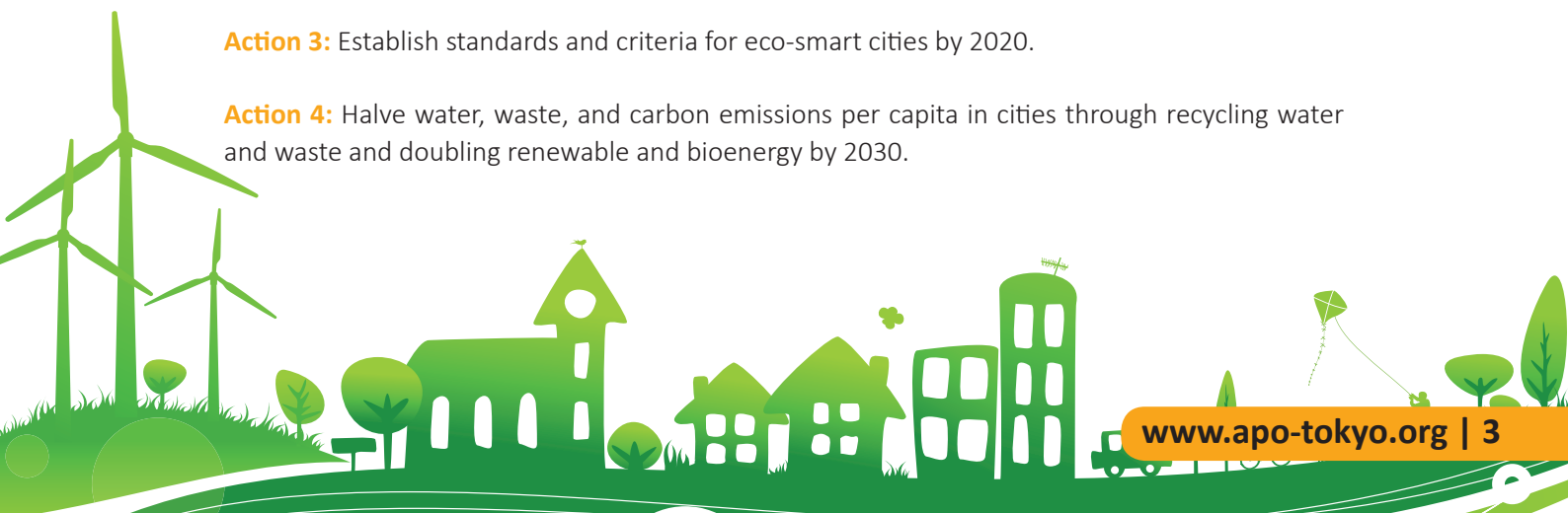
Several speakers gave examples of creating plans for sustainable cities and communities and then enacting them. A representative from Thailand provided five-year plans for the last two decades and the measures of success, along with the need for improvement. Several companies did the same in terms of changing from historical business products (for example, steel and concrete) to new ones that were becoming increasingly successful. With new economic measures, these significant changes for reducing carbon footprints and achieving net-zero emissions are moving ahead rapidly.

Action 1: Double the number of eco-smart cities by 2020.

Action 2: Double the volume and share of public transportation and halve traffic congestion by 2020.

Action 3: Establish standards and criteria for eco-smart cities by 2020.

Action 4: Halve water, waste, and carbon emissions per capita in cities through recycling water and waste and doubling renewable and bioenergy by 2030.



THE NEW BUSINESS MODEL

Multifunctional approaches can be adopted to increase GP and long-term business sustainability in a new model of business. Creating production chains that minimize emissions and waste among related businesses can contribute to GP and reduce climate impacts.

Action 1: Double the output of Green Production by 2020.

Action 2: Undertake 100% recycling of biomass and other renewable energy sources.

Action 3: Double the share of ethical consumption by 2020.

Action 4: Provide plans and fiscal incentives for GP and ethical consumption at all levels of government by 2020.

RAISING AWARENESS OF CIVIL SOCIETY AND BUSINESS

The awareness of society at large and businesses of the need for GP can be raised through the media and education. Actions critical for climate change mitigation and achieving the SDGs require awareness among all stakeholders.

Action 1: Double the media, education, and other programs focusing on climate change, such as offering Master's degree courses in Business Science, by 2020.

Action 2: Undertake daily communication on GP through social media by 2018.

Action 3: Collaborate and coordinate joint finances and technologies to save costs and increase the use of integrated systems by 2018.

Follow-up reports will be made every year at subsequent Asia EnviroEconomics Conferences.

On behalf of all delegates and experts of the conference,



Woodrow W. Clark II, PhD
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Raekwon Chung
Conference Expert



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