

Local Adaptation to Climate Change in Korea

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The Korean Presidential Commission on Green Growth was established in February 2009 to achieve the national vision for “Low Carbon, Green Growth”. In accordance with Article 46 of the “Framework Act on Low Carbon, Green Growth”. The National Climate Change Adaptation Strategies (2011-2015) was published on October 12, 2010. These strategies are aimed at adapting to climate change in a comprehensive and effective manner at the national level. Based on these strategies, the Korean government plans to carry out 87 projects in ten sectors, such as health, disaster management, and water management. Seventy experts from 13 ministries, including the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs, and the Ministry of food, Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, participated in establishing these strategies.

To achieve the vision of “building safe society and supporting green growth through adaptation to climate change”, the strategies are composed of specific countermeasures for the seven sectors including public health, disaster reduction, and water resources management, as well as three supportive activities to facilitate climate change adaptation including the monitoring and predicting of climate change. In 2011, the government of the Republic of Korea will be establishing the adaptation action plan at the ministry and provincial level in consideration of the importance of regional response to climate change and policy integration. To pursuing Korea’s Green Growth policies by proactively adapting to climate change, the Korean Ministry of Environment established the ‘Korea Adaptation Center for Climate Change’ at the Korea Environment Institute in order to enhance its ability to develop climate change adaptation strategies for central and local governments in Korea and to support adaptation networks in the world.

