

Low Carbon Society Blueprint and Roadmap towards Low Carbon Iskandar Malaysia 2025

The Malaysian government recognises that climate change and the adverse consequences arising from it are real and has taken positive policy actions to address climate change. A comprehensive ecosystem for an environmentally sustainable framework has been proposed to protect the environmental quality of life and caring for the planet while pursuing economic growth as well as development towards a high income nation status.

In order to carry out this agenda, there is a need to increase the awareness of all Malaysians that environmental sustainability is a shared responsibility for attaining a low carbon society. In addition, as Malaysia is experiencing rapid urbanisation, it is important to develop low carbon, vibrant and liveable cities or conurbation/ economic growth corridors that adopt climate resilient growth strategies. The formulation of a Low carbon society blueprint for regional and local authorities is one of the approaches to develop climate resilient growth strategies to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) at local and regional level.

This blueprint is one of major research outputs of our SATREPS (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development) project on the Development of Low Carbon Society for Asian Regions sponsored by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). The main universities involved in this collaboration work are Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Kyoto University, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), and Okayama University.

The Low carbon society blueprint for Iskandar Malaysia not only complements and updates the earlier Low Carbon City 2025 - Sustainable Iskandar Malaysia report (2009) but also embraces the 12 Actions Plan to guide development towards climate resilient urban development for Iskandar Malaysia. This will support the vision of building a strong sustainable metropolis of International Standing. Up-to-date we have completed the following supporting documents

- a) Low carbon society blueprint main text
- b) Low Carbon Roadmap
- c) Iskandar Malaysia- actions for Low Carbon Future
- d) Workbook for Ecolife challenge
- e) Low Carbon Malaysia 2030

The collaborative research approach in this project is unique because it gathers both international and local experts/scientists to provide scientific findings and quantitative modelling of carbon dioxide emissions to Iskandar Malaysia Development Authority (IRDA) who are the policy makers. The other unique feature is that the blueprint consists of 12 proposed actions which are based on the active participation and consensus building of major stakeholders in Iskandar Malaysia. This will ensure that the detailed proposed measures and programme will be aligned to the local community needs. In line with the Malaysian Government's effort to achieve a 40% voluntary reduction of CO₂ emission intensity by 2020, the implementation of the blueprint will facilitate the low carbon development of Iskandar Malaysia. Being one of the fastest growing regions in Malaysia, this demonstrates the realisation of how a low carbon society can be achieved by decoupling CO₂ emissions and economic growth.