

# **North-East Asian Low Carbon City Platform Peer-review Workshop on Wuhan Carbon Peaking Action Plan**

**Date:** Monday, 11 June 2018

**Location:** Wuhan City, China

## **1. Background and Objective**

North-East Asia (NEA) subregion is home to some of the largest economies in the world and is expected to have over 70% of its population living in urban centers by the next decade. In 2015, NEA countries also contributed almost 40% of the global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Within this context, there is a great need for cities' low-carbon development. Therefore, North-East Asian Sub-regional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) launched its North-East Asia Low Carbon City Platform (NEA-LCCP) in 2015 for further collaboration and experience sharing on low-carbon development among cities. Through various consultations with major stakeholders, NEA-LCCP has identified peer reviews as one of its key activity areas to help cities, which also facilitates exchange, learning and networking among LCC practitioners in the subregion.

To promote knowledge sharing and peer-to-peer support, it is important to take a closer look at low-carbon development in NEA countries. For example, China's National Development and Reform Commission officially launched a national low-carbon pilot program in several provinces and cities to encourage local institutional capacity on climate change mitigation and low-carbon development. China currently has 6 low-carbon pilot provinces and 81 low-carbon pilot cities. To better understand low-carbon development in China, NEA-LCCP identified Wuhan city as a case example for peer-review.

Wuhan is a mega city in central China with a population of 10 million people. It is the provincial capital of Hubei and is in the second batch of low-carbon pilot cities of the national low carbon programme. Its economic structure has been historically heavy industry-oriented, and it could be considered as a representative Chinese city in terms of the country's industrialization path. The Wuhan government issued

*Wuhan Carbon Peaking Action Plan (2017-2022)* in early January of 2018, which sets out specific goals, tasks, support measures and policies for ensuring the achievement of carbon peaking by 2022.

In this context, the purpose of this workshop is to highlight key issues for promoting Wuhan carbon peaking and to discuss policy options to ensure Wuhan's transformation to low carbon development. This workshop also aims to share Wuhan's practical experiences and best practices based on the city's feature, and to facilitate information exchange between NEA cities.

## **2. Framework of the workshop**

3.

**Duration and participants:** The workshop will be organized as a one-day in-depth discussion session, bringing together a small group (20 or so in total) of low carbon policy experts and stakeholders from Wuhan city, international participants from NEASPEC countries, and domestic and international organizations.

### **Key topics for discussion:**

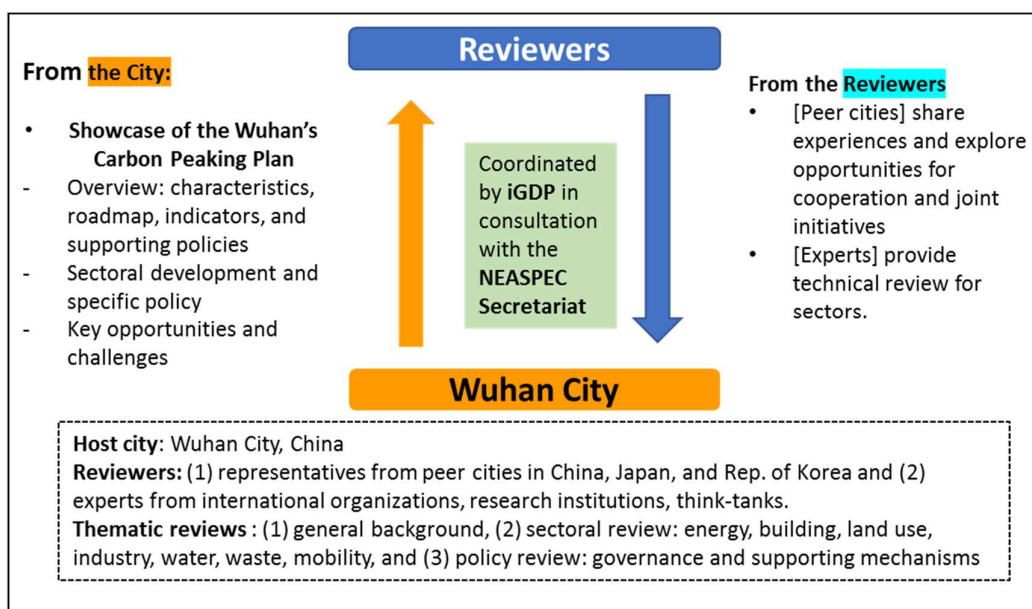
- Planning process of Wuhan carbon peaking, including driving factors for carbon peaking planning,
- Institutional framework, planning procedures, approaches and methodologies, which might help the city to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate its carbon peaking plan and to further its low carbon development.

### **Tentative agenda:**

- [*Presentation by the host city*] An overview of Wuhan's carbon peaking plan, including characteristics, roadmap, indicators and supporting policies.
- [*Presentation by the coordinator*] Presentation on Wuhan's case studies
  - Key areas (energy, industry, buildings, transportation and environment) and its driving force
  - specific policy instruments (ETS, low-carboner+) which could offer insights into the types of actions and policies that are most

likely to contribute to low carbon development.

- External factors that affect Wuhan's performance on carbon emission (e.g., national policy on low carbon, sectoral policies, development in neighbouring cities)
- [Peer review - Experience sharing of peer cities, technical review and advice by experts] Key opportunities and challenges in the implementation of Wuhan's carbon peaking plan, especially focusing on the four topics: multilevel governance, green finance, urban land-use planning and capacity building, all of which are closely interlinked with the success of the city's carbon peaking.



#### Organizers:

iGDP, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office, Energy Foundation of China

#### Potential participants:

Local government officials, city representatives, research Institutions, members of think-tank partnership, Media