

# Sustainable Cities and Eco-town Initiative (SCET)

*Advancing effective collaboration to accelerate implementation of sustainable cities policies*

## Goals

The Sustainable cities and eco-towns Initiative was launched at CEM 8. The initiative's goal is the overall improvement of energy sustainability in cities and towns as well as in rural areas for ensuring a secure and sustainable energy future, through effective benchmarking, knowledge transfer, creating and sharing of best practices, and implementing targeted campaigns. The initiative fosters collaboration and knowledge transfer to strengthen the current links and activities in participating countries and expedite the transition to cleaner and sustainable cities, towns, and rural areas. It also encourages closer cooperation and policy synergies between national and local policy-making to improve standards of living and facilitate a secure energy future in urban and rural areas.

## Rationale for being included in the CEM

It is estimated that between 2010 and 2050, the urban population will grow significantly by 2.5 to 3 billion people, increasing the urban share to the two-thirds of the world population. Also, there are still more than 1 billion people without electricity, mostly in rural areas in developing nations, in spite of significant progress on the SDGs on the accessibility.

Promoting eco-energy town at the local level could improve energy access in rural areas as well as sustainable transport infrastructure and increase resident income by creating new business opportunities. At the national level, developing eco-energy cities and towns will provide an opportunity to deploy new clean energy technologies. New business models are needed to develop clean energy technologies.

## Key accomplishments

- Identified key challenges in deploying eco-friendly vehicles (e.g. consumer awareness and expectation, supply chain sustainability, cost reduction through economies of scale, technology innovation, etc.) through an expert workshop.
- Explored policy measures in boosting eco-friendly vehicles at national and city level. For instance, imposing fuel taxation and vehicle taxation, tightening fuel economy regulations, adopting low-carbon fuel standard, and providing RD&D support for alternative fuels are expected to implement at national level. In addition, imposing pricing such as congestion charges and tolls and increasing investments to public transport are required at city level.
- Shared best practices in promoting clean solutions for urban transport (e.g. Ulsan Green Hydrogen Town).
- In the process of developing policy recommendations for CEM Members in making the transition to clean, sustainable, and energy efficient transport.



Lead CEM  
Member(s)



Korea



Russia

CEM Member  
Participant(s)\*\*



China



Mexico\*



Saudi  
Arabia



United Arab  
Emirates

\*Participation and leadership are under review.

\*\*India has also expressed interest to join.

## Key actions

- **Bench-marking** and identification of best practices related to the issue of sustainable development of cities from all over the world.
- **Engaging stakeholders** through workshops and international forums.
- **Targeted promotion** to increase awareness of sustainable cities development and the Eco-energy Town model.

## Highlights and deliverables since CEM9

- SCET initiative launched its own website (<http://sustainablecitiesinitiative.org/en>) in 2018 to share initiative outputs with other CEM Members and potential partners.
- Organised a Summit of Mayors (October 2018, Russia).
- Hosted a Workshop on the further development of the Sustainable Cities and Eco-energy town initiative (October 2018, Russia).
- Organised a Joint study and workshop in Indonesia on deploying Eco-energy Town Model (November 2018, Indonesia).
- Organised an Initiative working meeting at the CEM Prep in Santiago to agree on the work program and the next steps (January 2019, Santiago, Chile).
- Agreed on the scope of the Initiative - decided that that each year the Initiative's work program will be devoted to a specific substantive area. The year 2019 will focus on sustainable development of transport sector in cities and towns.



Source: Korea Energy Economics Institute (KEEI)

- The first workshop on sustainable transport in cities is organised in Ulsan/Korea at the end of April with a site visit to a hydrogen facility.
- The Initiative is in the process of discussing with the EVI possibilities of cooperation on transport issues and data collection.
- The Initiative is collecting data from cities on charging infrastructure for CNG, NGV, EV, Hydrogen.
- Analytical materials will be developed based on the collected data.
- The Initiative is developing Case studies of different type of public awareness of using eco-friendly fuel.



Operating Agent(s) /  
Coordinator(s)



Korea Energy Economics Institute (KEEI)  
is serving as a temporary operating agent.

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Global and  
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