



USAID | **ASIA**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Overview of US Government Programs

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10th Workshop on GHG Inventories in Asia (WGIA10)

Overview

- 
- What are LEDS?
 - EC-LEDS Initiative
 - LEDS Global Partnership
 - Overview of LEAD, LEAF, and SilvaCarbon Programs

Origins of LEDS



“A low emission development strategy is indispensable for sustainable development”

- Copenhagen Accord, December 2009



“Decides that developed countries should develop low carbon strategies or plans... Encourages developing countries to develop low carbon development strategies or plans in the context of sustainable development...”

- Cancun Agreements, December 2010



“Encourages developing country Parties to develop low-emission development strategies, recognizing the need for financial and technical support by developed country Parties for the formulation of these strategies”

- Durban Decision, December 2011

LEDS is Smart Development

- A **low emission development strategy** is a national-level, country-led, and country-specific development strategy, developed through a planning process involving an array of decision-making frameworks, strategies, and plans to:
 - ♦ *accelerate sustainable, climate-resilient economic growth*
 - ♦ *slow the long-term growth of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions*
- LEDS is **part of existing planning frameworks**, not a new process
- LEDS enhances planning by introducing new and improved decision-making tools, information, and systems

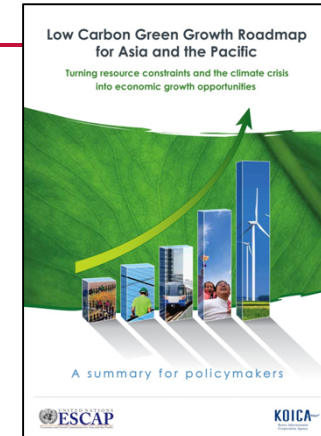
Terminology

- Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS)
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- Low Carbon Development Strategies (LCDS)
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- Low Emission Climate-Resilient Development Strategies (LECRDS)



One of “Five Tracks to Pursue Green Growth”

1. Improve quality of growth and maximize net growth
2. Close the gap between economic and ecological efficiencies
3. Plan and design eco-efficient infrastructure
4. Turn green into a business opportunity



5. Formulate and implement **low-carbon development strategies**

LEDS Five-Step Process



LEDS is Smart Development: How?

A LEDS is:

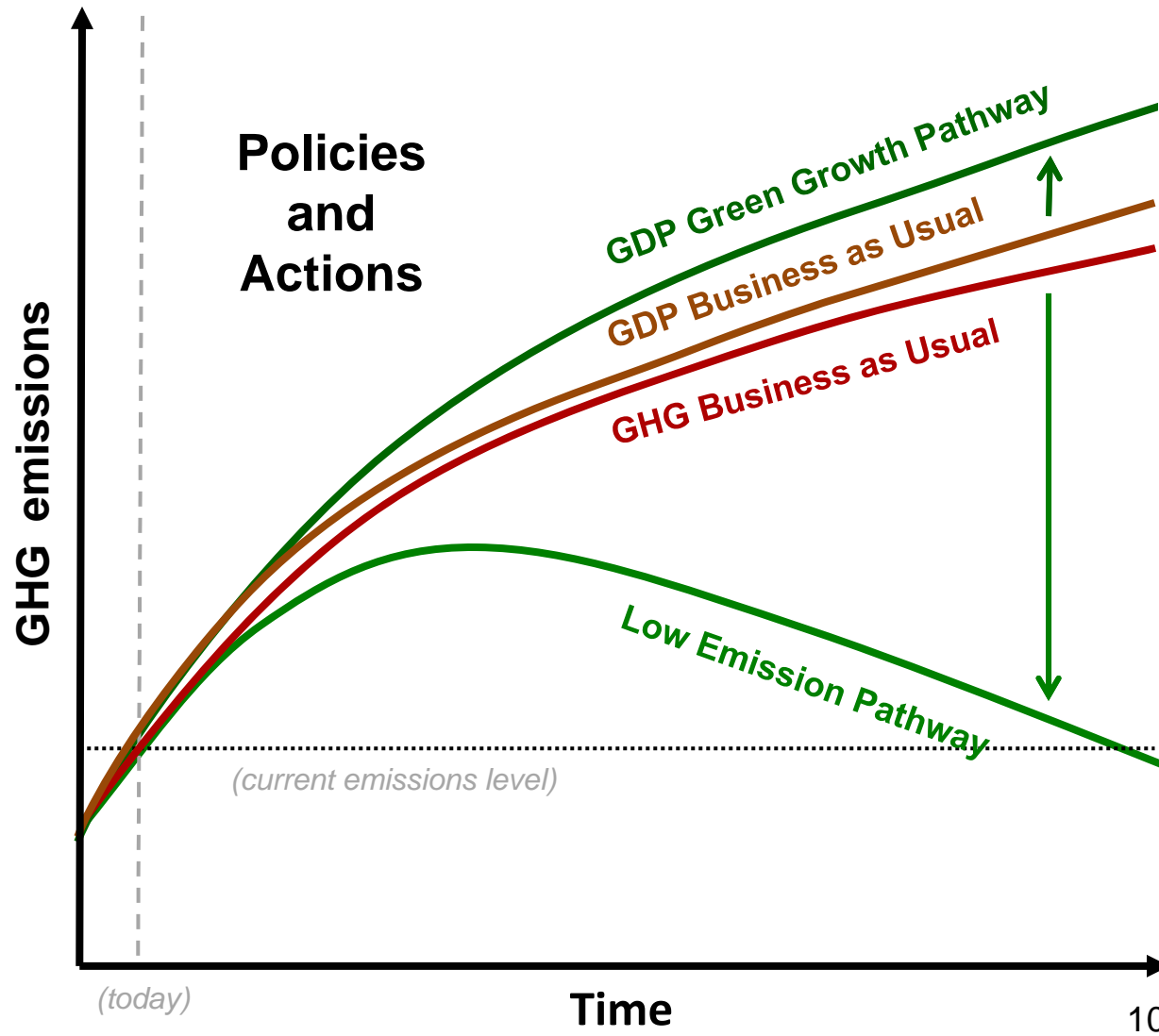
- Country-owned and country-led
- Reflects national development goals
- Whole-of-economy (all sectors)
- Implementable
- Inclusive of all stakeholders
- Transparent
- Long-term and forward looking
- Monitored for impact
- Revised as needed (with new data, new priorities)

LEDS is Smart Development: Why?

A LEDS:

- Provides an integrated comprehensive pathway for long-term, sustainable development
- Takes into account a country's development objectives and unique circumstances
- Promotes transformational development
- Helps a country meet international climate change commitments
- Helps a country access financing from both public and private sources

LEDS: Green Development Pathways



US Initiative on Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies (EC-LEDS)

EC-LEDS supports partner country efforts to pursue long-term, transformative development and ***accelerate sustainable, climate-resilient economic growth*** while ***slowing the growth of GHG emissions***

- Targeted assistance for LEDS development and implementation:
 - Strengthen existing strategies, plans, and planning processes
 - Strengthen in-country human and institutional capacity
 - Provide and adapt analytic tools and practices
 - Identify policies and programs, and assist with design and implementation of action plans and access to financing
 - Whole-of-government effort
- Support for international knowledge sharing on LEDS:
 - LEDS development web portal: www.OpenEI.org/LEDS
 - LEDS Global Partnership



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EC-LEDS Partnerships

MOUs

- Bangladesh-US MOU signed September 2011
- Philippines-US MOU signed November 2011
- Vietnam-US MOU signed March 2012

- Country-level LEDS programs involve multiple US Govt. agencies and support
 - ♦ clean energy
 - ♦ REDD+
 - ♦ GHG inventory improvement
 - ♦ etc.

Future MOUs

- Additional partnerships in discussion with 4+ countries

Additional US-funded LEDS Activities

- USAID/RDMA – Asia region
 - ♦ LEAD Program (*includes GHG inventory capacity building, complementing SEA GHG Inventory program*)
 - ♦ LEAF Program (*includes forest carbon monitoring cap. bldg.*)
 - ♦ Funding to USEPA, US Forest Services, US Dept. of Energy labs
- USAID/Washington – Philippines and Vietnam
 - ♦ Analysis and Investment for Low-Emission Growth (AILEG) program, other programs
- USEPA
 - ♦ SEA GHG Inventory Program
- US Forest Service, USAID, NASA, USGS, USEPA, NOAA, others
 - ♦ SilvaCarbon Program (*includes forest carbon stock and flow estimation, mapping, remote sensing*)
- US Dept. of Energy labs
 - ♦ Technical analysis and planning tools

LEDS Global Partnership



- **Purpose:** Launched in 2011 to advance low emissions growth through coordination, information exchange, and cooperation
- **Objectives:**
 - ♦ **Identify and disseminate best practices and lessons learned** that advance the global goal of low emissions growth and development
 - ♦ **Foster information exchange, coordination, and collaboration** among programs and countries working on LEDS, including working to maximize results while minimizing duplication
 - ♦ **Build awareness** of and support for LEDS development and implementation
- **Partners:** 50+ government, donor, and international institutions



Working Group: Asia Regional Platform (USAID lead)

- Objective is to advance LEDS across Asia and increase access to global LEDS resources and support
- Coordination of regional LEDS cooperation, capacity building, and knowledge-sharing initiatives into common framework
- Asia LEDS Forum – Sept. 18-21, 2012, Bangkok

Low Emissions Asian Development (LEAD) Program

Program period and funding: Five years (Oct. 2011–Sep. 2016), \$21.5m

Objective: Promote LEDS through improved development and implementation of LEDS frameworks and tools, GHG inventories and accounting, and carbon market development

Partners: ICF (prime), AIT, GHG Management Institute, ISC, Nexant, USEPA, USDOE, USDA/FS, others



LEAD Program Countries

Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam



LEAD Program Activities

Training and Technical Assistance:

- LEDS development and implementation:
 - Modeling, analytics, tools
 - GHG inventories and accounting, MRV
- Carbon market development
- Development of GHG accounting services industry

Cooperation and Coordination:

- Serve as Program Integrator for USG agencies
- Regional capacity building and knowledge-sharing platforms
 - LEDS Global Partnership (Asia Regional Platform and LEADS Forum)

LEAD GHG Inventory Activities (illustrative)

- National GHG Inventories
 - ◆ Technical assistance and training on non-AFOLU inventory sections – energy, industrial processes and product use (IPPU), and waste
 - ◆ Train-the-trainer
 - ◆ Demonstrate emission calculation software and methodologies, activity data collection systems and procedures, data management systems
 - ◆ Share best practices and lessons learned regionally (USEPA National System Templates, Key Category Analysis Tool, Ag. and Land Use (ALU) tool, etc).
- Sub-national GHG Inventories
 - ◆ Technical assistance and training on provincial and local inventories
- Corporate, Project, Scope 3, and Product GHG Inventories
 - ◆ Train private sector on voluntary corporate GHG accounting
 - ◆ Develop toolkit for corporate, project, Scope 3, product GHG inventory development
- Support through new Asia LEDS Training Facility

Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests (LEAF)

Objective: Strengthen capacity of target countries to reduce GHG emissions from the forestry-land use sector, allowing them to benefit from the emerging international REDD+ framework

Activities:

- Regional sharing and replication on REDD+ implementation
- Cap. building in forest carbon monitoring and env. service valuation
- Support policy and market incentives
- Demonstrate innovations in sustainable land management
 - Low emissions development planning at sub-national scale (province/district)

Countries: Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, PNG, regional

Partners: Winrock (prime), SNV, Climate Focus, US Forest Service





US Government's SilvaCarbon Program

US science, innovation, and technical expertise to assist developing countries in monitoring and managing forest and terrestrial carbon

- A flagship program under US fast start financing for REDD+
- A US contribution to the Forest Carbon Tracking task of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO)
- SilvaCarbon aims to:
 - Coordinate US Government technical expertise to enhance capacity to understand, monitor, and manage forest and terrestrial carbon
 - Partner with developing countries and others to identify, test, and disseminate good practices, and cost effective, accurate technologies and methodologies

SilvaCarbon Objectives

- Demonstrate and compare forest and terrestrial carbon measurement and monitoring methodologies
- Build capacity of selected developing countries to use forest and terrestrial carbon monitoring and management methodologies and technologies
- Facilitate, in cooperation with the international community, the coordinated collection and dissemination of earth observation data related to forest and terrestrial carbon monitoring and management
- Strengthen the community of forest and terrestrial carbon technical experts

SilvaCarbon Partners

- US Agency for International Development (USAID)
- US State Department
- US Geological Survey (USGS)
- US Forest Service (USDA/FS)
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Smithsonian Institution
- US universities, NGOs, and industry



SilvaCarbon Technical Areas

- Sampling protocols and design
- Data capture, processing, archiving, and distribution
- Collection and analysis of *in situ* data, including involvement of local communities and stakeholders
- Integration of remotely sensed and *in situ* data
- Classification and mapping of forest cover
- Carbon stock and flow estimation
- Design of monitoring systems for multiple uses
- Land use analysis and planning

Find us...

An architectural rendering of a modern city skyline. The buildings are tall and feature green facades with vertical gardens. In the foreground, a man and a woman are standing on a balcony, looking out at the city. The sky is blue with some clouds.

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