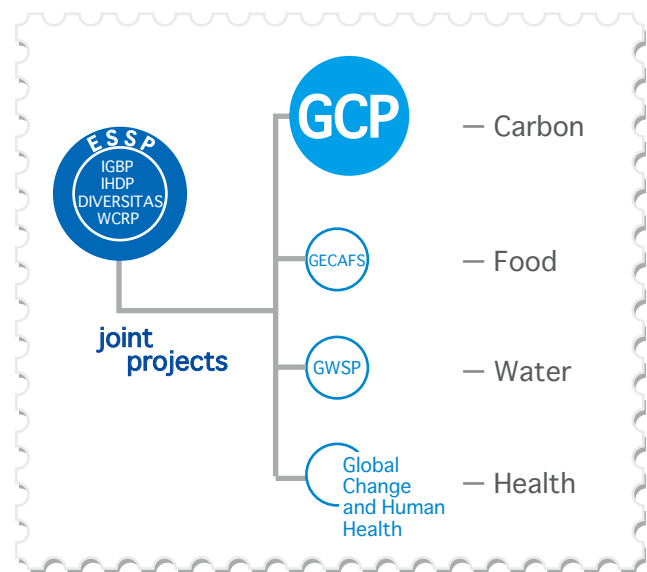


What is the Global Carbon Project ?

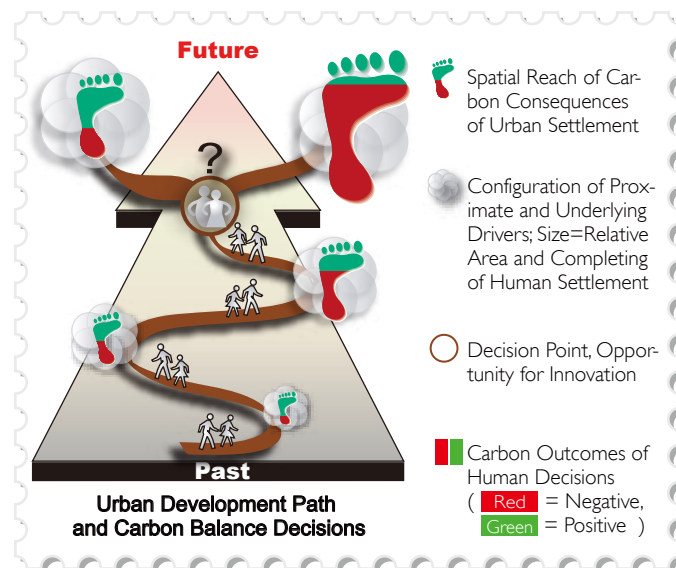
The Global Carbon Project (GCP) is one of the joint projects of the Earth Science Systems Partnership (ESSP), four global environmental research programs - International Human Dimensions Programs on Global Change (IHDP), International Geosphere Biosphere Program (IGBP), World Climate Research Program (WCRP) and DIVERSITAS. **Its goal is to develop a comprehensive, policy-relevant understanding of the global carbon cycle, encompassing natural and human dimensions and their interactions.** Details are available on the GCP website located at: <http://www.globalcarbonproject.org>



GCP has two International Project Offices hosted by the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Research Organization (CSIRO) at Canberra (Australia) and the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) at Tsukuba (Japan). It has an affiliate office in Beijing and supporting offices in Jena (CarboEurope at Max Planck Institute, Germany), Washington DC (US Global Change Research Program) and Paris (Advisory Panel on Ocean CO₂ at UNESCO).

Implementation of URCM

- Synthesizing studies to provide a comprehensive and holistic policy relevant picture of urban and regional carbon management
- Facilitating the initiation of pioneering research within the URCM framework where major gaps exist
- Organizing conferences and workshops to build a scientific community for URCM
- Bringing scientific understanding to policy discussions through science-policy dialogue
- Developing partnerships with other scientific and policy communities



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Printed in November 2006



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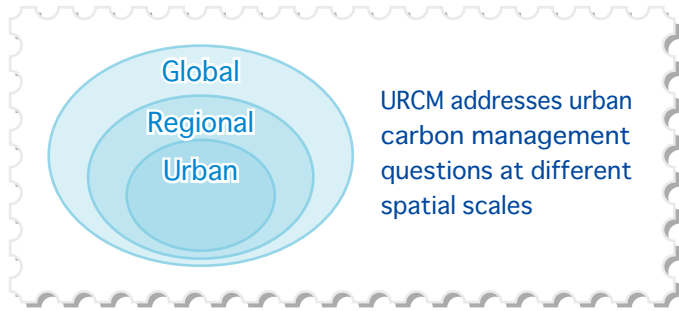


Urban and Regional Carbon Management

The Global Carbon Project launched the "Urban and Regional Carbon Management"(URCM) Initiative in 2005. URCM is a place-based and policy-relevant scientific initiative aimed to support carbon management and sustainable urban development. The first international conference of URCM entitled "Managing Carbon at Urban and Regional Levels: Connecting Development Decisions with the Global Issues" was held from 4-8 September 2006 in Mexico City. The conference has given GCP the mandate to coordinate and develop this important area.

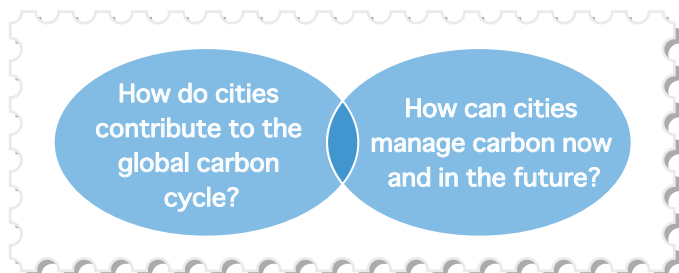


Science Questions



URCM addresses some of the most fundamental scientific issues related to carbon management:

- How do urbanization and the global carbon cycle interact globally through population, affluence, energy and other biophysical and socioeconomic mechanisms?
- How can we quantify current and past carbon emissions/sinks in cities and regions? What are the future scenarios of decarbonized urban and regional development?
- What configurations of underlying and proximate drivers (geography, socioeconomic factors, historical legacies/trajectories etc.) explain the differences in carbon trajectories of cities?
- What management strategies can influence carbon mitigation in cities?
 - What are the trade-offs and synergies of streamlining carbon management in local areas?
 - What are the roles of the institutions and carbon governance structures in sound urban and regional carbon management?



Framework of Urban and Regional Carbon Management (URCM)

