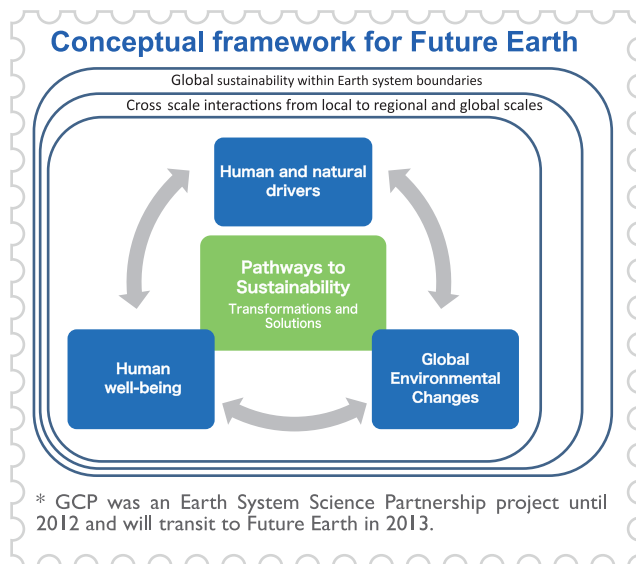


# What is the Global Carbon Project ?

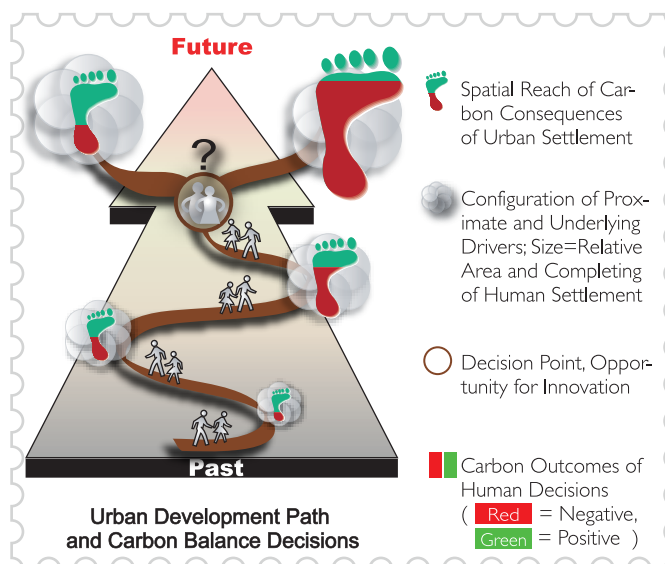
The Global Carbon Project (GCP) is one of the joint projects of the Future Earth initiative which will develop the knowledge for responding effectively to the risks and opportunities of global environmental change and for supporting transformation towards global sustainability in the coming decades. The goal of GCP 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 web-site 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 two affiliate offices in Beijing and Seoul, and supporting offices in Jena (CarboEurope at Max Planck Institute, Germany), Washington DC (US Global Change Research Program) and Paris (Advisory Panel on Ocean CO<sub>2</sub> 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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<http://www.globalcarbonproject.org>  
<http://www.cger.nies.go.jp/gcp/>

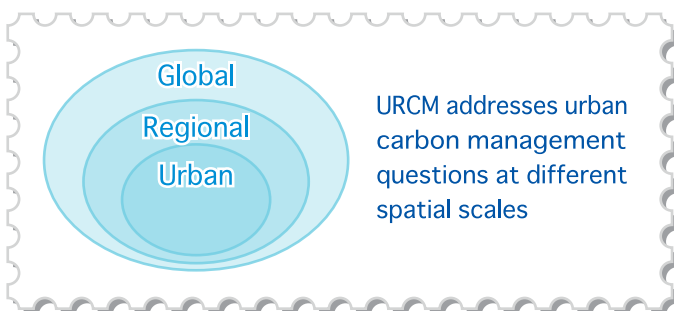


## Urban and Regional Carbon Management

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 at promoting sustainable, low-carbon, and climate-resilient urban development. The most recent international workshop of URCM entitled "Climate Compatible Urban Development: Towards Developing Assessment Frameworks for Cities" took place in Bangkok from 12-13 March 2013. This workshop was successful in setting the context for future development of an integrated assessment system for guiding climate-compatible and resilient urban development.



# 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 International strategies will best support carbon mitigation and adaptation in cities?
  - What are the possible synergies and trade-offs between mitigation and adaptation measures in urban and regional development?
  - What are the roles of the institutions and carbon governance structures in sound urban and regional carbon management?
- How can low-carbon urban development enhance resilience of communities in the face of climate change and other increasing uncertainties and complexities?
- What are the key indicators of a low-carbon, climate-resilient urban environment? How can these indicators be incorporated into an integrated assessment model that could facilitate progress toward an urban environment featuring such characteristics?



# Framework of Urban and Regional Carbon Management (URCM)

