

ANNEX A : FACTSHEET

NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY (NCCS-2012) DOCUMENT

The National Climate Change Strategy (NCCS-2012) document outlines Singapore's plans to address climate change through a whole-of-nation approach. The document's title, '*Climate Change and Singapore: Challenges. Opportunities. Partnerships.*' reflects the key elements of Singapore's climate strategy. They include reducing emissions across sectors, building capabilities to adapt to the impact of climate change, harnessing green growth opportunities as well as forging partnerships on climate change action.

Reducing emissions

Singapore has embarked on policies and measures to reduce emissions by 7% to 11% below 2020 Business as Usual (BAU)¹ levels, as announced in 2009. The reduction will be further increased to 16% below BAU contingent on a legally binding global agreement in which all countries implement their commitments in good faith.

As a small city-state, Singapore has limited access to alternative energy sources. Our early actions also make further reductions more challenging in the near term. Natural gas already constitutes about 80% of our fuel mix for electricity generation today. Singapore has also actively managed private transport demand through capping vehicle growth and pricing vehicle usage so as to manage congestion and to reduce its impact on the environment.

In the long term, stabilising emissions will also be a challenge, given our constraints in switching to alternative energies, such as geothermal, wind or hydropower. There is an upper limit to the amount of solar energy that can be generated, given our limited space for deployment of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) recognises the need to take into account the national circumstances and constraints of countries facing serious difficulties in switching to alternative energy. Nonetheless, it would be important to push ahead to harness energy efficiency possibilities and leverage or develop innovative low carbon technology, which will take time.

¹ The BAU level refers to a projection without policy intervention. Singapore's BAU emissions in 2020 is projected to be 77.2MT.

The Long Term Emissions and Mitigation Working Group (LWG), under the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change (IMCCC), will study how Singapore can stabilise long term emissions. The LWG will highlight options for emissions reductions and identify capabilities, infrastructure and policies needed for long term mitigation measures.

Building capabilities to adapt to the impact of climate change

Singapore has taken actions to enhance our resilience against climate change. We are building up expertise and capabilities on climate science and adaptation, in partnership with research institutions locally and abroad. Studies are also on-going to better understand the potential impact of climate change on Singapore. We will continue to prepare for the future as global knowledge of climate science evolves.

Harnessing green growth opportunities

While climate change poses a challenge, it also provides opportunities for Singapore to develop as a green growth hub. Singapore has placed priority on developing the cleantech industry, spanning areas such as clean energy and energy efficiency, green buildings, smart grids, carbon management, as well as waste and water management. Many companies and research institutes are based here as Singapore is a regional hub for research and innovation and also a test-bed for urban solutions.

We have also sought to augment our research capabilities by partnering global universities and institutes to set up research centres in Singapore. Many of these centres are working on technologies with potential applications to climate change mitigation and adaptation. The innovations being developed in Singapore will not only help us to address our own energy and climate change challenges. They can also provide solutions to help other cities and urban communities anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to climate change. Addressing climate change can bring about economic opportunities and create high-value jobs.

Forging partnerships on climate change action

The NCCS-2012 explains what the Government is doing on climate change, as well as what individuals, households and businesses need to do, for a collective national effort to address climate change challenges. To achieve more emission reductions over time, everyone has a part to play, by making the needed adjustments and adopting energy-saving practices.

Our many partnerships in the People, Public and Private (3P) sectors on climate issues are integral to help us to better prepare for the challenges ahead, as well as to make the most of green growth opportunities as they arise. Proactive individuals, businesses, non-Government organisations (NGOs) and community groups are our key partners in reaching out to a wider audience.

Singapore will also continue to collaborate actively with international partners through various multilateral, regional and bilateral platforms. In particular, we support and participate actively in multilateral negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to develop a global agreement for climate change.

We need to work together to ensure that Singapore remains a flourishing and enduring city.