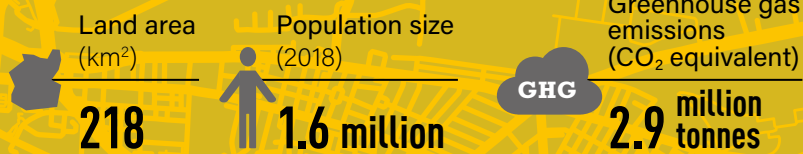


RECIFE

BRAZIL



14

Recife, an Atlantic seaport in north-eastern Brazil, is the first city in the country to formally declare a climate emergency. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Recife is the 16th most vulnerable city in the world to climate change. Drastic changes in the local weather have motivated the local government to make commitments towards a low-carbon future. In 2019, in response to its climate emergency declaration, Recife committed under the City Climate Action Plan to becoming carbon neutral by 2050. The local government also aims to achieve 100% renewable energy in city-wide operations by 2037.

In 2013, Recife created two municipal fora, Comclima and Geclima, to formulate climate change and sustainability policies. As a part of the Urban LEDS project, the city also has developed measures to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. Under the Urban LEDS network, Recife was selected to receive support from the climate finance laboratory to install a pilot 17 kW-peak solar PV system at the Women's Hospital of Recife (HMR), which is expected to be operational by 2021. In addition, Recife City has approached a local energy company, Companhia Energética de Pernambuco (CELPE), to finance an initial investment of EUR 200,000 (around USD 225,000) to help define model financing for energy efficiency measures, distributed generation and replicability of actions in other buildings in the municipality.

To assist the city's sustainable development efforts, the Energy Efficiency Program (PEE) – promoted by CELPE in the regulations



of the National Electrical Energy Agency (ANEEL) – provides 0.4% of the net operating revenue of local energy companies to fund research and development projects and the implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures in the city. To promote greater citizen participation, CELPE holds public hearings where it presents the plans and results of renewables and efficiency projects in the region. Through public calls, it seeks partners to promote the development of new technologies, transform energy efficiency markets and create rational habits and practices for the use of electricity.



SEOUL

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Land area
(km²)

605

Population size
(2020)



9.9 million

Greenhouse gas emissions
(CO₂ equivalent)



46,685,000 tonnes

15

In July 2020, Seoul, the capital of the Republic of Korea, responded to the country’s commitment to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 by developing an integrated policy approach focused on five key areas: buildings, mobility, forestry, clean energy and waste management. Seoul’s vision is to be a sustainable city where “human, nature and future co-exist”.

The Republic of Korea’s policy approach towards climate neutrality mirrors the EU’s Green Deal to achieve net-zero emissions and respond to climate change. By 2025, the Korean government will invest around USD 37 billion in Green New Deal policies and a further USD 7 billion in carbon-cutting measures. Seoul has put forward two intermediate goals ahead of the 2050 climate-neutrality goal: to achieve 40% emission reduction by 2030 and 70% emission reduction by 2040 (compared to 2005 levels).

Since 2012, Seoul has adopted policies to reduce its dependency on nuclear energy through two phases of the One Less Nuclear Power Plant Project. In 2017, Solar City Seoul was launched with the goal of adding 1 GW-peak of solar power capacity by supplying PV panels to 1 million households by 2022. The programme, which has a budget of around USD 1.46 billion (funded mostly by public investment), aims to reduce CO₂ emissions by 544,000 tonnes annually and to add 4,500 new jobs by 2022. The programme exceeded its intermediate goal by installing a total of 357.1 MW of solar panels for 285,000 households by 2019.

One of the challenges facing the Solar City Seoul programme is securing enough space at buildings and public facilities to install solar panels. As part of the green energy initiative of the

Seoul 2050 climate neutrality plan, Seoul is identifying new installation sites (including urban infrastructure); increasing the standards for solar generation in zero-energy buildings; providing subsidies for building-integrated PV; extending the feed-in tariff system to on-site solar power generators and supporting new solar PV technology.



Source: See endnote 137 in the *Urban Policy Landscape* chapter.