

Climate Policy at Local Level and Its Role in Climate Change Mitigation. Is China the new leading player in Climate Governance?

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AGENDA

Introduction

Local actors: analyzing
local experiences and
contexts

China as a new player
Areas of growth

Timeline

Conclusions



“

Cities consume 78 per cent of the world's energy and produce more than 60 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions

”

UN  **HABITAT**
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



INTRODUCTION

Climate change issues bring to the surface the need to comprehend the problems that arise where natural environment and socio-economic factors interact and similarly where science and policy interact. (Downing, et al., 2001)





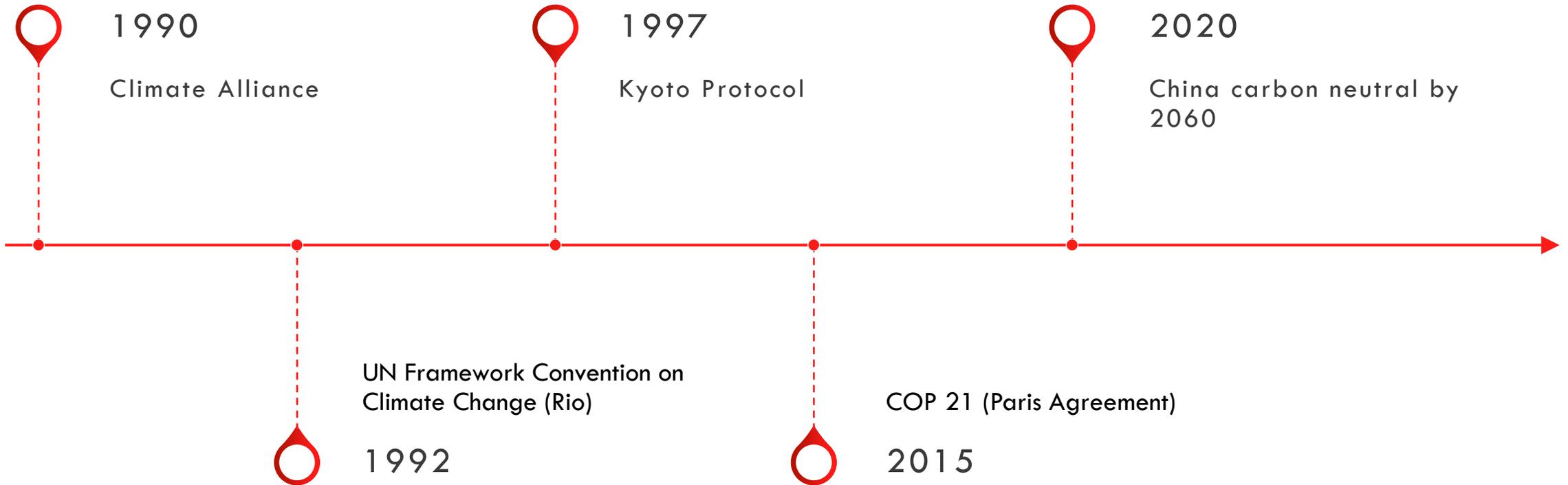
LINKING A GLOBAL PROBLEM TO LOCAL FACTORS (Wilbanks & Kates, 1999)

Developing a bottom-up paradigm to meet the top-down paradigm midway.

Developing a protocol for local area studies of global climate change issues to increase the comparability of case studies.

Building a system for long-term observation, monitoring, and analysis of the interaction of global forces at a local scale.

TIMELINE



MITIGATION TOOLS FOR MUNICIPALITIES

1

LAND USE
PLANNING

2

URBAN
DEVELOPMENT
POLICIES

3

INVESTMENT IN
INFRASTRUCTURE

4

RENEWABLE
ENERGY SOURCES
MANAGEMENT

5

DECISION MAKING
FOR SCHOOLS,
PARKS, AND
RECREATION AREAS.

BARRIERS

Lack of political will to prioritize climate policies.

Lack of knowledge among municipal politicians.

Lack of clarity from national authorities recommendations & legal ground.



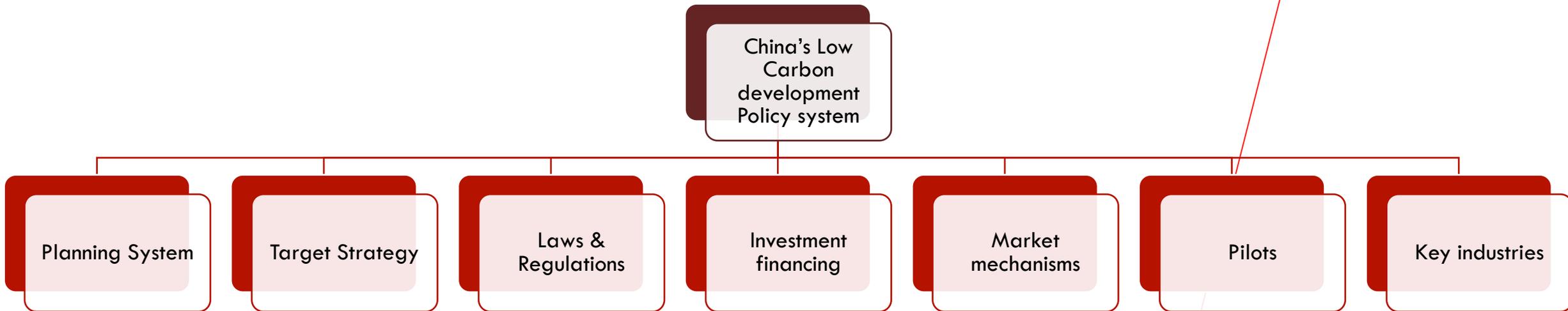
CHINA'S GOALS

- Achieve the peaking of carbon dioxide emissions around 2030, making best efforts to peak early.
- Lower carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP by 60 percent–65 percent from the 2005 level by 2030.
- Increase the share of non-fossil fuels in primary energy to around 20 percent by 2030.
- Increase the forest stock volume by around 4.5 billion cubic meters from 2005 levels by 2030.



Chinese cities appear to be among the biggest emitters of greenhouse gases with Handan, Shanghai, Suzhou, Dalian and Beijing as top sources, reporting emissions about three times that of New York City.

China is using seven different policy tools to comply with its carbon-emissions reduction goals and requires **all levels of government** to implement and support enforcement measures.



HOW TO GET THERE

2008

The Low-Carbon Development system materializes as a

Green Cities Program.

(Shanghai and Baoding)

2010

NDRC (National Development and Reform Commission) called for new pilots in 5 provinces & 8 cities.

2016

NDRC & Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD) launched a process with 30 pilot cities.

“ We should protect nature and preserve the environment like we protect our eyes, and endeavor to foster a new relationship where man and nature can both prosper and live in harmony,”

Chinese President Xi Jinping
Beijing Leaders Summit on Climate,
April 2021

”



CONCLUSIONS

Cities can be the focal point of change with innovative tools in their existing and future areas of responsibility.

Chinese Local Authorities respond to the central government's expectation and take action.

Politicians, decision makers and administrators need the support of NGOs, networks as well as the National government.



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THANK YOU



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