

# U.S. Initiative on Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies (EC-LEDS)

**Kit Batten, Ph.D.**

**USAID Global Climate Change Coordinator**

**[kbatten@usaid.gov](mailto:kbatten@usaid.gov)**

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**Enhancing Capacity for  
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## The U.S. seeks to help other nations address the global climate change challenges we all share



**“A low emission development strategy is indispensable for sustainable development”**

**- Copenhagen Accord,  
December 2009**



**“Climate change is one of the century’s greatest challenges; rising to this challenge is one of the President’s highest diplomatic and development priorities ... I encourage missions to support partner countries ... to develop **Low Emissions Development Strategies....**”**

**- Administrator Shah, Letter to  
Mission Directors, May 2010**

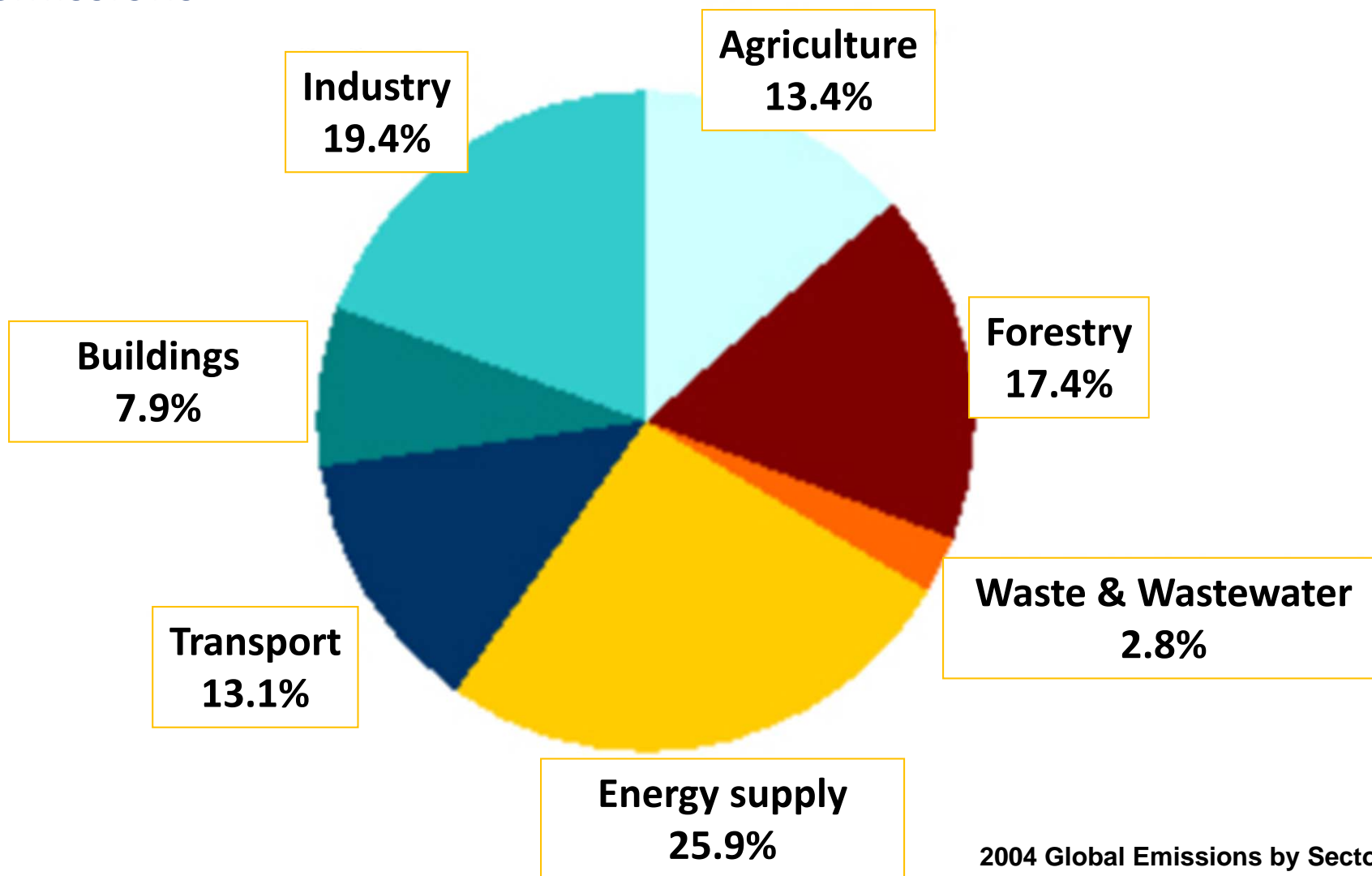
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## The energy sector is responsible for a significant quantity of global emissions



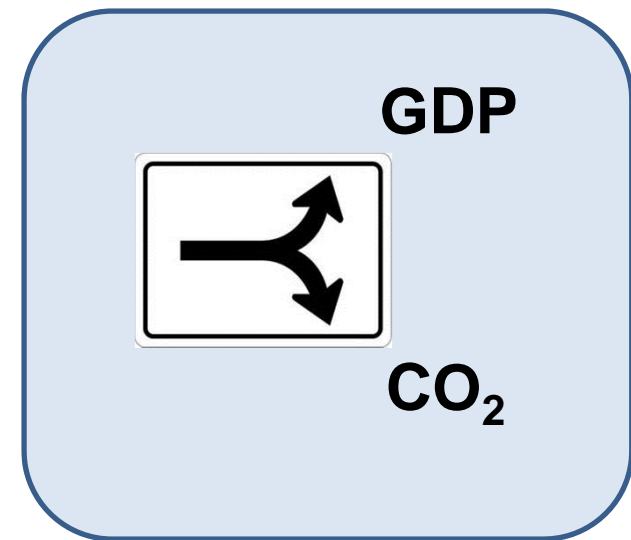
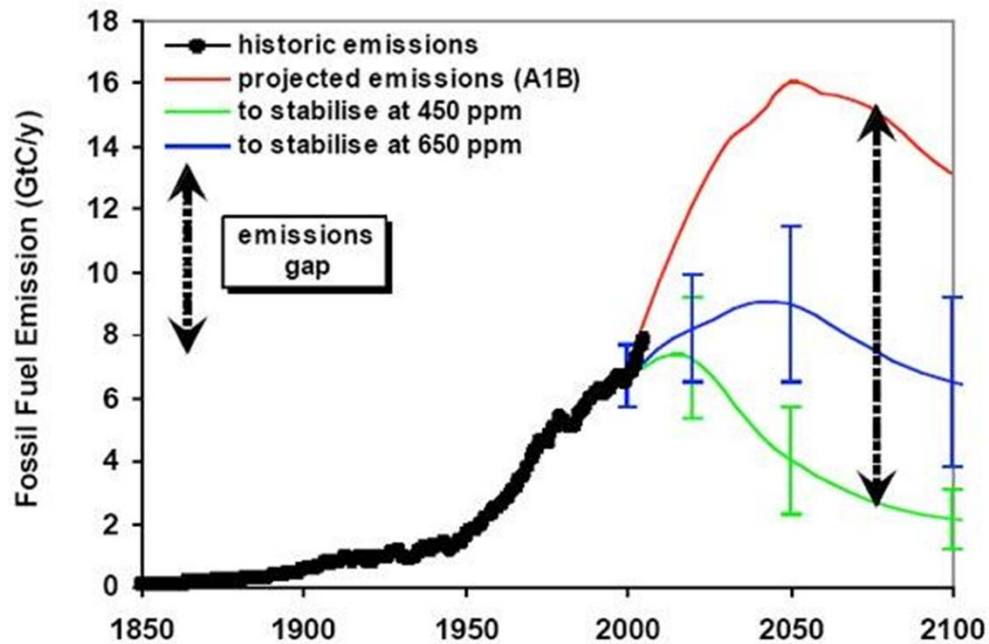
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# Can We Move Towards Low Emission Economic Growth?



Can these be decoupled?

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# A Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS)

- **A country-driven plan that:**
  - Reflects a country's development objectives and unique circumstances
  - Utilizes strategic and comprehensive economic development and environmental planning frameworks
  - Recommends specific programs and policy changes and provides implementation and financing plans
  - Country specific and country owned, integrated with national plans and budgets
- **A global trend**
  - Many countries (developed and developing) have long-term climate change mitigation strategies

## What is a LEDS?

**A US initiative to support developing countries' efforts to pursue long-term, transformative development and accelerate sustainable, climate-resilient economic growth while slowing the growth of GHG emissions**

1. Outline of national development goals and key drivers of growth
2. Summary of economic data, inventory of national GHG emissions
3. Long-term projection of business-as-usual development and GHG emissions
4. Vulnerability assessments for threats to economic development, including climate change, security, etc.
5. Prioritized alternative actions that improve economic growth, respond to vulnerabilities, and lower the long-term emissions trajectory
6. Implementation and financing plans for high-priority actions (linked to country budgets)

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# Enhancing Capacity for Low Emissions Development Strategies (EC-LEDs)

## Important Elements:

- 1) Country-driven
- 2) Builds on existing efforts
- 3) Emphasis of the program is on the “E” and the “C” – Enhancing Capacity
- 4) Based on sound science and technological solutions across key economic sectors

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## EC-LEDS Targeted Technical Assistance

US assistance emphasizes building human, institutional, technical, and legal capacities so that partner countries may design, implement, and refine their LEDS

### Examples of Support:

- GHG inventory techniques
- Policy, regulatory, and institutional analyses (economic and environmental)
- Economic models
- Sector-specific analyses and methods for data collection (e.g. electricity generation, transmission, and use; industrial processes and product use; agriculture, forestry, and other land uses; transportation)

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# Shared Knowledgebase through the LEDS Global Partnership

***Mission: The Global LEDS Working Group is dedicated to advancing low emissions development through ongoing coordination, information exchange and cooperation among other donor programs and country institutions***

LEDS Global Partnership convenes an annual winter workshop with donors, implementers, and partner countries

- **Example Activities:**

- Assess geographic scope of LEDS support and opportunities for enhanced coordination in addressing country needs
- Assess effective approaches and lessons that can be broadly applied in the establishment of a country's LEDS process
- Evaluate and disseminate best practices with LEDS policies across countries

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## USG Partner Countries

### Partners:

- Mexico
- Bangladesh
- Colombia
- Vietnam
- Gabon
- Philippines
- Georgia
- Macedonia
- Kenya
- Costa Rica

### **Agreed Work Program**

***Bangladesh***

***Philippines***

***Costa Rica***

**Goal: 20 countries in 2013**

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