P19 / Just and Justice guided energy transitions – beyond rhetoric and single cases

Topic : ENVIRONMENT, SDGs, ENERGY

Chair : Daniel del Barrio Alvarez (The University of Tokyo)

Second Chair : Warathida Chaiyapa (Chiang Mai University School of Public Policy)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

In recent times there has been an outstanding growth in the academic and practical interest on “Just Transition” and “Energy Justice”. Both reflect on the idea that the transition to sustainable energy systems is not only a technological change (towards decarbonization) but, rather, a socio-technological system, one in which the broader social impacts need to be considered. And aim to incorporate moral concerns of not leaving anyone behind and creating new opportunities, as well as practical issues such as avoiding unfair negative impacts on those more vulnerable and possible social backlash against this change. Governments and international organizations across the globe have embraced both concepts, and, as a result, it is relatively common to be these associated to an increasing number of energy policies, such as the Just Transition Energy Partnerships, to name a few.

However, the concepts of just and justice are, at times, very open and include cultural aspects, making them challenging to (i) operationalize beyond rhetoric and (ii) generalize beyond specific sectors or geographies. Furthermore, as with any sociotechnical change, the energy transition brings winners and losers, within local and national contexts but also internationally. Also, to ensure a Just or Justice based energy transition may require a slower pace, which might be incompatible with the emergency of Climate and Sustainable Development targets. What lead to (iii) conflicts between just, justice, and other strategic priorities.

To address these, researchers across disciplines and geographies are conducting theoretical and empirical numerous studies to guide energy transition policy makers in this endeavor. For example, several frameworks have been proposed in the literature.

This session aims to provide a platform for researchers to discuss these issues and propose a way forward. Specific topics of interest include

· Identification and measurement of synergies and trade-offs across the multiple dimensions and issues of Just and Justice Energy Transition frameworks

· Innovative approached to incorporate Just and Justice elements into the energy policy making and planning processes, examining the roles of different stakeholders (government, private sector, civil society) in co-creating these policies.

· Merits and perils of Just Transition and Energy Justice to achieve the Climate Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals (on time)

· Integrating Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) in Energy policy design and implementation, examining intersectionality—exploring how different social categories overlap and intersect in the energy transition context.

· Policy instruments to implement Just Transition and Energy Justice, incorporating multi-level governance, i.e., the role/authorities of each different levels of governments in designing and implementing each policy instrument

· Developing new framework to measure and evaluate Just Transition and Energy Justice policy

· Drawback or concern of having pursue Just Transition and Energy Justice i.e. discussing on potential conflicts between rapid transitions and justice goals could spark a more nuanced debate.

Other beyond these will be also considered, in particular when helping to answer the specific question

CALL FOR PAPERS

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Session 1

Thursday, July 3rd 16:00 to 18:00 (A2)

Gender, Energy, and Inequality: Barriers to Clean Cooking in Rural India

Anandi Yadav (Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay)

Just and Sustainable Energy Transitions in Africa: Addressing Biofuel Land Grabs and Social Equity

Erdoo Paula Awai (Osaka Metropolitan University)

FLORENT NOULEKOUN (Korea University)

Can India balance development and climate action? Assessing our state of knowledge

Medhavi Sandhani (Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi)

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Session 2

Friday, July 4th 08:00 to 10:00 (A2)

Motivations, Drivers and Barriers to Just Energy Transitions in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Case Study of Mozambique

Krinah Jani (Kyoto University)

NIMBYism or Lack of Self-relevance?: Policy implications from studies on nuclear waste management in Japan

Shunsaku Komatsuzaki (Tokyo Metropolitan University)

So Morikawa (The University of Tokyo)

Reona Hayashi (Hosei University)

Hydrogen for a just transition? Experts' perspectives on the future of hydrogen in Japan and Spain

Daniel del Barrio Alvarez (The University of Tokyo)

Antonio Atienza-Márquez (Universidad de Málaga)

Benjamin McLellan (Kyoto University)

PABLO DEL RIO (CSIC)