

Call for Abstracts

Second Young Scientists Dialogue, March 14, 2024 (online)

The German-Japanese Energy Transition Council ([GJETC](#)) strives to enhance the binational exchange between researchers investigating energy matters related to Japan and/or Germany. It focuses on exploring energy solutions and policies that are in line with climate change mitigation commitments while it must be ensured that these are compatible with security of energy supply, social well-being and international competitiveness. With its *Second Young Scientists Dialogue*, the GJETC seeks to widen its perspective by inviting young scientists (age under 40 years) with a particular focus on the Energy Transition in Germany and/or Japan to share their ideas with the council members.

Young scientists from various disciplines are encouraged to present their scientific findings or to introduce a question/topic for comparative German-Japanese analysis that could be discussed by the council in the future.

If your submission is accepted, you will be invited to present your results or ideas in elevator pitches of 15 minutes, followed by 5-10 min. Q&A from the council members.

Action invited: Submission of an abstract (up to 200 words) for an elevator pitch

Deadline: January 15, 2024

(Acceptance notification will be sent by February 10, 2024)

Please submit to the following address:

gjetc@wupperinst.org

Date and time of the event: **March 14, 8:30-11:00 (CET) / 16:30-19:00 JST**

Conference Organizers:

Prof. Tatsuya Terazawa, Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ), Japan

Dr. Stefan Thomas, Wuppertal Institut, Germany

Further Guidance on Topics

Any topic meeting the criteria below will be welcome. An advantage will be suggestions comparing Japan and Germany or addressing their bilateral cooperation.

In addition, we particularly invite submissions focusing on the GJETC's study topics for 2023 or one of the special topics outlined below.

GJETC Study Topics of the current project phase

- Electricity Market Design
- The more effective governance of energy efficiency policies
- Green industrial policy: The EU Green Industrial Plan and Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework (TCTF) compared to the Japanese GX Transformation

Special Topic 1: Circular Economy and Climate Mitigation

1. *How can strategies of a Circular Economy contribute to climate mitigation?*
2. *Please refer to concrete policies and measures (also beyond Germany and Japan) and if possible, to quantified evaluation results of policies' integration*

Keeping the 1.5-degree target “within reach” with isolated climate mitigation policies apparently turns out as a huge challenge. Scenario analysis (UNEP/IRP 2020; Pauliuk 2021; Acatech 2021; UBA 2019) at a global and national level for Germany demonstrate that it might be easier to reach ambitious climate mitigation goals if climate policy is combined with strategies of a Circular Economy (CE; “policy integration”). This has been demonstrated by scenario analysis including selected CE-strategies for decarbonizing the transport and building sector. For policy makers and for businesses in Japan and Germany, concrete recommendations are necessary to reduce the complexity of policy integration. Thus, policies and measures with possible win-win characteristics – contributing to climate mitigation and protection of natural resources at the same time – have to be developed and implemented. Design for reuse or remanufacturing, increased recycling (e.g., of traction batteries) or quota for using secondary materials (e.g., concrete) might be examples. International good practice examples and evidence-based projects or policies are highly welcome.

Special Topic 2: (Energy) Sufficiency and enabling Policies

1. *(Energy) Sufficiency policy as a pillar of climate mitigation: What policies and measures can enable and incentivize more sufficient practices?*
2. *Please focus on the building and transportation sector and refer to good practice examples and scenario results, also beyond Germany and Japan.*

In the face of the growing threat of climate change and the lagging behind of ambitious decarbonization measures, it is increasingly debated (e.g., by IPCC or IEA) whether and how adopting more sufficient practices will become a necessity, particularly for more privileged segments of the population. Energy sufficiency and wider sufficiency policies might help to focus more on sustainable transformation solutions, whether in the transportation, building or other sectors. In many cases, policies and measures need to enable and incentivize such solutions, e.g., by providing means of sustainable transport or by facilitating the move to more appropriate apartments. However, even such politics supporting behavioral changes may be a hot topic in public debate especially in unequal societies, making it obvious that policies and measures need to be designed carefully and just, including social support for low-income groups and convincing communication strategies to get public acceptance.

You are free to emphasize any of these aspects according to your field of interest, zeroing in on a specific sector, the role of sufficiency in decarbonization more broadly, or focusing on the design of specific measures. Possible carbon reduction through sufficiency measures can be analyzed just as well as their public acceptance for different income groups.

Special Topic 3: Public Acceptance of Renewable Energies

1. *What policies and measures can improve public acceptance of renewable energies?*
2. *Please refer to concrete policies and measures (also beyond Germany and Japan) and if possible, evaluate results of their effectiveness.*

This topic covers all kinds of research into enabling policies to raise public acceptance of renewable energies. PV and wind power plants as well as power lines and pipelines often meet local resistance. Achieving acceptance is highly important to accelerate implementation. Possible content: first understand the reasons for the lack of acceptance in both countries, then analyze policies to raise public acceptance (also looking at other countries including Denmark); analyze the role of benefits (financial participation as often crucial for public acceptance especially of PV and wind power plants).