International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
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EDITS
Energy Demand changes Induced by Technological and Social innovations

RITE
Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth



The future of high well-being in carbon-neutral societies

COP31 – RITE-IIASA event

Friday, 13 November 2026, from 16:30 to 17:30 **Japan Pavilion, Antalya, Turkey**

Measures and policies transforming the demand side of our systems enable carbon-neutral societies, that can achieve high standards of living for everyone. Reducing energy and material demand while ensuring high well-being for all is central to achieving global and local targets alike. Technological and social innovations on the demand-side can speed up the transition, lower costs and bring benefits for health, equity and development.

Drawing on scientific evidence and data from the Energy Demand changes Induced by Technological and Social innovations (EDITS) network, the session presents the frontiers of low-demand knowledge and practice. It also shows how they can inform climate policy, social development, and urban and infrastructure planning at local, national and global scales. The speakers will discuss:

- the multiple benefits of demand-side solutions and recent policy innovations
- the environmental and societal dimensions of net-zero futures
- the costs of demand-side solutions as input to decision-making
- pathways to a net-zero built environment in the Global North and Global South

Program

Moderator: Souran Chatterjee (University of Plymouth)

16:30-16:45	**Introduction: the multiple benefits of demand-side solutions and the policy innovations in Japan** Keigo Akimoto (Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth, RITE)
16:45-16:55	**Innovation gaps across sectors to reach net-zero economies** Keywan Riahi (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, IIASA)
16:55-17:05	**Costs of demand-side solutions for decision-making** Joyashree Roy (Asian Institute of Technology, AIT)
17:05-17:15	**Net-zero built environment in the Global North and in the Global South** Nan Zhou (University of California, UC Berkeley)
17:15-17:30	*Discussion and questions from the floor*

Online participation:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84015194486?pwd=yaziW9xuSGVoEdUurq4Jj0RpQ1Ysxu.1

More information at:

- https://www.copjapan.go.jp/cop31en/seminar/1305/
- https://iiasa.ac.at/projects/edits/edits-network-at-unfccc-cops

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