



Press Release

German-Japanese Energy Transition Council GJETC meets on CO₂ pricing and critical raw materials

Berlin/Tokyo, 18 February 2025: The German-Japanese Energy Transition Council (GJETC) will hold its 18th Council meeting in Tokyo on 18 and 19 February. The discussions will focus on the topics of *CO₂ pricing and social acceptance* as well as the *availability of critical raw materials for renewable energies*.

Current political developments in both countries will also be discussed, including Japan's new Strategic Energy Plan, the potential consequences of the new elections in Germany and the influence of the new Trump administration on Germany and Japan.

The content of the Council meeting will be based on two expert analyses, which will be published by the GJETC as output papers in March. To this end, the Council members will develop specific policy recommendations on both key topics. A particular focus will be on the design of CO₂ pricing and accompanying measures that enable social acceptance, as well as securing supply chains for the expansion of renewable energies, both in Germany and in Japan.

"There are similar concerns in both countries about the effects of carbon pricing. It could, for example, weaken the competitiveness of industry and increase social inequality. However, our analyses of data and studies for the output paper show that with a clever addition of targeted support programs, even the transformation of industry and building refurbishment or sustainable mobility can be made economically viable for less affluent households. The revenue from CO₂ pricing in particular could be used for this purpose," emphasizes Stefan Thomas, Head of the Energy, Transport and Climate Policy Department at the Wuppertal Institute and German Co-Chair of the GJETC. "As technology-driven countries, securing critical raw materials is vital for Japanese and German industry. We can work together to secure resources in third countries and lead the world in developing technologies that contribute to resource recycling and conservation", adds Tatsuya Terazawa, President of the Institute of Energy Economics Japan, and Japanese Co-Chair.

On the occasion of the Council meeting, the GJETC is organizing several side events to engage in an open exchange with relevant stakeholders and the general public. The program includes a stakeholder dialogue on CO₂ pricing with representatives from industry on 18 February. On 19 February, the interested companies and researchers are invited to an open outreach event entitled "Meet the Co-Chairs & Council Members" to engage in direct dialogue with Council members on current study topics. On the same day, besides the GJETC hosted event, a roundtable discussion on "Issues under the new Trump Administration from a geopolitical perspective-views from Germany and Japan" will take place in cooperation with the Japan Economic Foundation. In cooperation with the German



Embassy in Japan, there will be a "Climate Talk" on the role of resilient supply chains for critical raw materials for the energy transition on the following day, 20 February, at the ambassador's residence.

Further information on the side events [can be found on the website](#). The results of the Council meeting and the side events will be published on the GJETC website afterwards.

About the GJETC

The German-Japanese Energy Transition Cooperation Council (GJETC) is an international model project to strengthen the exchange of knowledge on technologies, policies and the effects of the energy transition. In its form, continuity and size, the GJETC is the first German-Japanese energy transition cooperation project of its kind. Founded in spring 2016, the Council conducts a comprehensive study programme on key topics of the energy transition, holds stakeholder dialogues with industry and civil society and has already published sixteen studies, a series of strategic papers and two reports with key recommendations for a successful energy transition in March 2018 and June 2020.

The project, which was jointly initiated by the Wuppertal Institute, ECOS, hennicke.consult and the Institute of Energy Economics Japan (IEEJ/Tokyo), is supported on the Japanese side by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). On the German side, the Council was funded by the German Federal Environmental Foundation (DBU) and the Mercator Foundation in the 1st and 2nd working phases. In the 3rd phase of the Cooperation Council, the former Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) took over support for the GJETC from the DBU. In the current working phase, the Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection (BMWK) is supporting the activities.

Together with ECOS, the Wuppertal Institute coordinates the Council's work as secretariat in Germany, while the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) takes on this task on the Japanese side.

The GJETC's previous studies can be viewed and downloaded at the following link: <http://www.gjetc.org/publications/>

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