

GJETC Stakeholder Dialogue

on How to Improve Energy Efficiency Policy for the
Industry in Japan and Germany



February 19th, 2026

10:00 - 12:30 CET

Berlin

Background

As countries like Germany and Japan advance their energy and climate strategies, the recognition is growing that effective policy must not only reduce emissions and enhance security of energy supply but also ensure a just transition that considers the economic implications for businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises.

Improving energy efficiency is often cost-effective for society as well as for industrial companies. Therefore, implementing cost-effective improvements will both improve the firms' competitiveness and contribute to mitigating climate change. Given the multiple barriers to energy efficiency, improving energy efficiency policy is key to implementing more of the cost-effective energy efficiency potentials in the industry sector. This will also contribute towards the COP-28 target of doubling the worldwide rate of energy efficiency improvements.

Against this background, the German-Japanese Energy Transition Council (GJETC) invites interested representatives from Japanese and German industry, associations, academia and administration to a **Stakeholder Dialogue in Berlin on February 19th, 2026** to exchange information and opinions on the following aspects:

- Status, trends and new approaches in energy efficiency policy for industry in Germany and Japan
- Energy efficiency, competitiveness and GHG reduction
- How to implement more of the cost-effective energy efficiency potentials in the industry sector, especially:
 - How to improve the benchmark regulation of industrial energy efficiency in Japan, discussing potential implications for EU and German policymaking
 - How to improve practical support for industries, including SMEs, to integrate energy efficiency in investment projects and implement dedicated energy efficiency projects in Germany and Japan

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Agenda

09:30 **Welcome Coffee**

10:00 **Greeting Addresses**

H.E. Ambassador Mitsuko Shino

*Dr. Axel Bree, Deputy Director General for International Energy Politics,
Federal-State Coordination and Energy Efficiency, Federal Ministry for
Economic Affairs and Energy BMWK (tbc)*

10:15 **Welcome by the GJETC Co-Chairs**

*Prof. Tatsuya Terazawa, Chairman & CEO, Institute of Energy
Economics, Japan (IEEJ)*

*Dr. Stefan Thomas, Director, Research Division Energy, Transport and
Climate Policy, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and
Energy*

10:30 **Status, trends and new approaches in energy efficiency policy for
industry in Germany and Japan**

Presentation of preliminary paper by the GJETC study team

10:50 **Comments / Statements from the Stakeholders**

What are the needs, expectations and concerns among businesses
regarding energy efficiency policy?

11:20 **Deep-dive Discussion**

- Suggestions for improving energy efficiency policies for industry in both countries to overcome barriers and harness more of the potential
- How to improve the benchmark regulation of industrial energy efficiency in Japan, discussing potential implications for EU and German policymaking
- How to improve practical support for industries, including SMEs, to integrate energy efficiency in investment projects and implement dedicated energy efficiency projects in Germany and Japan

12:25 **Closing remarks of the GJETC Co-Chairs**

12:30 **Networking Lunch**

13:30 **End of Stakeholder Dialogue**

About the GJETC

The German-Japanese Energy Transition 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 has conducted a comprehensive study programme on key topics of the energy transition, holds stakeholder dialogues with industry and civil society and has already published eighteen studies, a series of strategic papers as well as two reports with key recommendations for a successful energy transition.

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 GJETC, the former Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) took over support for the GJETC from the DBU. Since 2022, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK), now Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE) has been supporting the activities.

The Wuppertal Institute, together with ECOS, is coordinating the Council's work as secretariat in Germany, while the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) is taking on this task on the Japanese side.

The GJETC studies can be viewed and downloaded at the following link:

<http://www.gjetc.org/publications/>

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