

International Cooperation, Energy Transition, and Climate Change

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Energy Transition Holds Key to Tackle Global Energy and Climate Crisis (IRENA 2022)

International cooperation is crucial to successful energy transition. The Breakthrough Agenda is designed to strengthen international collaboration where it is most needed: power, hydrogen, road transport, steel, and agriculture (IEA, et al. 2022)

Two general cross-cutting areas for cooperation

- Provision of finance: e.g. concessional loans that complement private investment
- Non-financial cooperation: e.g. promoting trade, harmonizing standards, carbon emission trading market, best practices including technology sharing

FOR DISCUSSION: Asia-Pacific economies can explore avenues to strengthen cooperation in energy transition

This presentation: Highlight primary threat to international cooperation in energy transition

- Deteriorating US-China relations
- Makes US clean energy transition more difficult, given its dependence on China's technology exports
- US-China engagement on climate is sorely needed in areas of trade, supply chains, and technology, to ensure that bilateral tensions do not irreparably harm the ability to reduce emissions in either country and the world (Gunia 2022)
- “Countries like to hide between the U.S. and China and say, ‘The two biggest polluters aren’t working together, aren’t doing much, so why should we?’” (Bernice Lee, climate policy expert at Chatham House).
- **QUESTION:** Will these tensions affect cooperation in the aforementioned areas, e.g. provision of concessional loans? What is the role of regional organizations and individual countries (apart from US and China) in ensuring international cooperation amid these tensions?

POSTSCRIPT: President Biden and President Xi Jinping of China agreed on Monday (November 14) to restart talks between their countries as part of international climate negotiations

Hopefully, this is a sign that issues on energy transition and climate change can be isolated (or “siloeed”) when it comes to bilateral relations between the US and China.

References

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감사합니다

Maraming Salamat!!!

Terima Kasih

ကျေးဇူးတင်စွာ

ありがとう

धन्यवाद

Cảm ơn rất nhiều

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謝謝你。

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THANK YOU !!!