

Energy Policy in Japan: Before and After Fukushima

Date/Time: 26 November 2011, 9:30-18:00

Place: Rikkyo University, Tokyo, 7th bldg. Room7102

**Organizers: Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Tokyo Office,
Rikkyo University Institute of Economics**

Panel 1: The Past

10:00–12:00



At over 10% of GDP, energy is the most fundamental sector of the economy. Yet Japan's policymaking in the energy sector, particularly electricity, has failed egregiously and left the country very vulnerable. The big question is why such an important sector of the economy could be rendered so susceptible to extraordinarily costly policy failure. The first panel therefore examines the damage done and the processes that led to the present.

Presenter: Kodama Tatsuhiko, University of Tokyo: *"The Victims of the Nuclear Incident"*

Presenter: Yoshioka Hitoshi, Kyushu University: *"The Structure of Japan's Nuclear Policymaking"*

Presenter: Kaneko Masaru, Keio University: *"The Post-Fukushima Struggle over Energy Policy"*

Commentator: Martin Schultz, Fujitsu Research

Panel 2: The Present

13:00–15:00



The 3/11 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster have delivered an enormous blow to the Japanese economy. Domestic consumption remains weak, undermined by uncertainty over power supplies. Overseas, the "Japan brand" has taken an enormous hit through repeated news cycles bearing warnings of radiation as well as concerns over the security and reliability of widely extended supply chains. Japan's soft power has been greatly undermined by this single incident. Moreover, the threat of insufficient power remains a serious challenge for the corporate sector. Wide-ranging discussions about the future of Japan's energy politics have begun and sparked similar discussions in other countries.

Presenter: Guo Xiaobing, Institute of Contemporary International Relations: *"A Chinese Perspective on the Implications for Nuclear Energy"*

Presenter: Yu Jung-min, Korea University / Energy and Climate Policy Institute for Just Transition: *"A Korean Perspective on the Future of Nuclear Energy"*

Presenter: Andrew DeWit, Rikkyo University: *"The Political Economy of Smart Power and Smart Cities"*

Commentator: Miranda Schreurs, Berlin Free University

Panel 3: The Future

15:30–17:30



This panel focuses on possible routes Japan might take. The rethink of the basic energy policy, especially its devotion to nuclear power, is ongoing. As Masayoshi Son, Gerald Curtis and other opinion-shapers suggest, Japanese politics and industry ought to use this crisis as an opportunity to get back into the front ranks of the countries competing in the environmental and energy revolution. But the roadmap through which to make this crisis a green opportunity remains as yet undrawn. This panel therefore centers its attention on how Japan could move towards sustainable and green growth and reduced risk in energy supply.

Presenter: Yamashita Noriaki, ISEP: *"Japan's Rural and Urban Boom in Renewables"*

Presenter: Martin Schultz, Fujitsu Research: *"Energy Productivity: Gains from Breaking up Japan's Closed Energy Market"*

Presenter: Ohbayashi Mika, Japan Renewable Energy Foundation: *"Fukushima's Legacy: A Sustainable Energy Society"*

Presenter: Miranda Schreurs, Berlin Free University: *"Fukushima's Influence on Germany and the World"*

Commentator: Kaneko Masaru, Keio University

Language: English and Japanese (with simultaneous translation)

Attendance is free. But please note that seating in the Room 7102 is limited, and hence we ask that attendees register in advance by mailing your name and affiliation to:
morimoto_m@rikkyo.ac.jp