

2nd International Conference on Fossil Fuel Supply and Climate Policy

24–25 September 2018
Queen's College, Oxford, UK

Call for Abstracts and Proposals

Key dates

Deadline for abstracts and proposals: 23 March 2018

Notification of acceptance: 23 April 2018

Application to register opens: 1 May 2018

About the Conference

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel combustion is a top priority for climate and energy policies. However, such policies have yet to put fossil fuel use on a trajectory consistent with keeping warming well below 2°C, let alone 1.5°C. Recognizing this shortcoming, policy-makers, researchers and civil society actors have begun to consider and enact a new suite of complementary policies and actions that aim to phase down fossil fuels in a more comprehensive way – by also limiting fossil fuel *extraction*.

The **International Conference on Fossil Fuel Supply and Climate Policy** explores the many opportunities for, and challenges of, these supply-side strategies for limiting coal, oil, and gas, recognizing that many countries rely on fossil fuel extraction and trade for their energy security, economic development, and political influence.

[The first conference](#), held in 2016, sparked new ideas, research and connections among finance specialists, industry representatives, international organizations, civil society, and academic researchers. This second two-day conference will build on the growing interest in whether and how climate policy should seek to limit the supply of fossil fuels. It will bring together researchers and practitioners to reflect on lessons learned and continue the discussion on how policies, plans and investment decisions on fossil fuel extraction and trade can be more consistent with long-term climate goals, and how a just transition away from the fossil fuel economy can be secured.

Individual Presentation and Session Proposals

We invite the following submissions on the [conference website](#):

1. **Individual presentations.** Abstracts should describe the topic, findings and arguments (300 words max). Full papers are encouraged but not required. Papers submitted before the conference can be considered for a journal special issue.
2. **Thematic session, covering 3-5 presentations.** Proposals should include a description of the session topic (300 words max), 3-5 abstracts (each 300 words max), and proposed session chair. Please note that all abstracts will be evaluated individually; organizers may suggest modifications or the combining of sessions.

- 3. Special sessions, such as policy roundtables or panel debates around a specific topic.** Proposals should include a description of the session design (300 words) and a list of participants. We encourage the submission of innovative sessions, such as roundtables (e.g. with government, industry, and civil society representatives), panel debates, or speed-talks. Please contact conference organizers by email in advance to discuss preliminary ideas: 2018conf@sei.org.

All submissions must include a short (200 words or less) biography for each proposed presenter. While there is no limit on the number of submissions, no individual will be selected for more than one paper/presentation/session.

Conference themes

Submissions may address one of the following conference themes, topical, region- or context-specific cases that cut across those themes, or any other topic that is of clear relevance to the conference.

Theme 1: Risks and benefits of continued investment in fossil fuel supply: finance, economics, and sustainability. Examples of pertinent questions include:

- What are the implications of a limited carbon budget for fossil fuel development globally and in individual countries?
- What are the implications and opportunities for socio-economic development in countries engaged in a managed decline of fossil fuel extraction?
- How do subsidies and other forms of financial support affect decision-making on fossil fuel development?
- How are fossil fuel companies addressing calls to align their plans with the 2°C/1.5°C goals?
- How can individual fossil fuel investments – and portfolios of such investments – be evaluated for consistency with climate goals?
- How can fossil fuel development be aligned with multiple Sustainable Development Goals?
- How do geopolitical factors and political economy affect the prospects of limiting fossil fuel extraction?
- How do competing economic forces, such as the green paradox and divestment, interact?

Theme 2: Strategies to manage a decline in fossil fuel supply: policy, governance, economic, legal, and social dimensions. Examples of pertinent questions include:

- What are the opportunities and limitations of supply-side policies in specific regional contexts?
- What are the prospects, merits and limitations of litigation against fossil fuel producers?
- What role can international governance, including the UNFCCC and trade and investment agreements, play in constraining fossil fuel supply?
- How can the emission impacts of policies and measures to curb fossil fuel extraction be assessed and quantified?

- What role do social movements (including, but not limited to, the divestment movement and site-based campaigns) play in addressing fossil fuel supply?
- What are the synergies and conflicts between supply-side and more traditional demand-side climate policies (e.g. carbon pricing, renewable energy support)?
- What are the synergies and contradictions with other public policy objectives, such as regional development, local environmental protection, health?
- What lessons can be learned from strategies in other domains (e.g. tobacco control)?
- How can subsidies to fossil fuel producers be reformed?
- What role can development finance institutions play in resource extraction regions and activities?
- What are the impacts of financing strategies, such as divestment, on extractive industries in light of alternative sources of finance?

Theme 3: Just and equitable transitions and alternative development pathways for resource-rich regions: ethics, economics, development and equity. Examples of pertinent questions include:

- What would a just transition away from fossil fuel extraction look like in practice?
- Can the transition away from fossil fuels be designed in a way that helps address existing forms of social and economic inequality?
- What can be learned from historical experiences with transition and economic diversification strategies?
- How can ethical and political perspectives align in addressing equity dimensions of fossil fuel extraction and climate change?
- What are the economic, distributional and social implications of specific policies and measures to curb extraction?
- How can alternative development pathways for resource-rich developing countries be developed in an inclusive manner?
- Can competing economic and political interests be managed to enable rather than hinder a just, equitable, and effective transition?

Cross-cutting submissions: We also encourage submissions that cut across these themes and questions. For example, submissions could address topical, region- or context-specific cases, such as the recently announced efforts to divest from fossil fuels (from New York to Norway) or bans on fossil fuel exploration enacted in France, Belize and Costa Rica.

Additional information

The organizers are undertaking efforts to secure travel support for participants who are based at institutions in developing countries. To the extent that travel funds are available, they will be disbursed on a merit basis. Acceptance of a paper for presentation does not guarantee travel support.

Additional information and answers to frequently asked questions can be found on the conference website: <http://fossilfuelsandclimate.org>. You can also email the organizers at 2018conf@sei.org.

Conference partners



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