Mitigating the Impacts of the Energy Transition on Vulnerable Communities



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Need for energy transition

- Climate change causing loss of habitats, ecosystems, wildfires, flooding and melting of the Arctic
- Fossil fuels account for 82% of global energy use electricity, heating and transport
- Non-fossil fuel sectors construction, agriculture, technology and manufacturing
- Renewable energy a sustainable alternative to fossil fuels



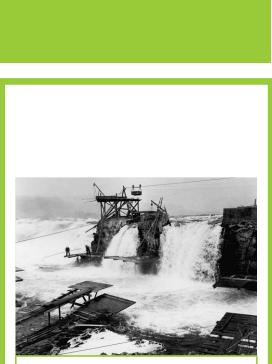


Analysing the impacts of the energy transition -Environmental impacts

- Water requirement for biofuel plants can compete with other water uses for domestic uses and livestock
- Batteries for renewable energy sources not yet recycled
- Disturbance of peatland, wildlands and biodiversity disruption during renewable energy project development
- Outsourced emissions from renewable equipment production



Boat Regatta festivals in the Niger Delta region



Reservoir of Dalles Dam on the River Columbia flooded the neighbouring Celilo village.

Social impacts

- Risk of flooding of homes, farmlands, and villages from hydro-electricity dams – Cree nation
- Communal lands, heritage sites, and ancestral graves may be required for renewable energy development
- Cultural festivals may be affected by renewable energy development





Economic impacts

- Local economy such as fishing and farming may be affected by renewable energy development
- Businesses in affected fishing communities such as seafood sellers, restaurants, and water based transportation
- Job losses for fossil fuel workers



Just energy transition for vulnerable communities -Workers

- Engagement with workers' union to understand adverse impacts
- Provide upskilling and retraining for fossil fuel workers
- Provide on the job training for workers







Host communities

- Host communities energy transition impact assessment
- Social inclusion of all groups
- Community benefits from fossil fuels should be replaced
- Restorative justice and environmental remediation





Indigenous peoples

- Historical neglect of indigenous peoples in energy development
- Cultural heritage destroyed for energy development
- Public engagement necessary to foster social inclusion
- Alternative energy sources should be provided where fossil fuels are main energy sources

Conclusion

Energy transition urgent to address climate change

Adverse impacts need to be acknowledged

Just transition for vulnerable communities essential Energy justice principles need to undergird the transition

Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments in the IAIA24 app.



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