



**ISETS**  
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR  
ENERGY TRANSITION STUDIES

**NEWS**  
LETTER

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2024 Q4



## NEWS AND OPINIONS

### Sun Xiansheng, President of the International Society for Energy Transition Studies Attend the 2024 International Energy Development Executive Forum to Discuss the Future of Global Energy

The 2024 International Energy Development Summit Forum was successfully held in Beijing from December 10 to 11, 2024. Jointly organized by the CNPC Economics & Technology Research Institute (a national high-end think tank) and S&P Global, the forum attracted nearly 500 representatives from government departments, industry associations, energy companies, think tanks, research institutions, and financial investment organizations to explore future pathways for global energy development.

Mr. Sun Xiansheng, President of ISETS, former Secretary General of the International Energy Forum (IEF), and Senior Researcher at the Taihe Institute, attended as the forum's founder and honorary chairman. The forum invited several renowned experts in the international energy sector to deliver keynote speeches. President Sun chaired the keynote speeches delivered by Mr. Daniel Yergin, Vice Chairman of S&P Global, and Mr. Zhang Xiaoqiang, former Vice Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission and Executive Vice Chairman of the China Center for International Economic Exchanges.

In his speech, Daniel Yergin highlighted the profound changes underway in the global energy landscape, particularly the fundamental shifts in the supply and demand structure of oil and gas. He noted that with the rapid development of new energy and renewable energy, China has taken a leading position in the global energy transition. Benefiting from the shale revolution, the United States has become the world's largest LNG exporter, while the Ukraine crisis has accelerated the replacement of Russian oil and gas supplies by other nations. Yergin emphasized the severe challenge of achieving "multi-dimensional balance" in energy transitions, advocating that countries fully consider differences and priorities, and account for factors such as economic development, transition costs, and energy security to promote rational and balanced energy transition practices.

In his keynote speech, Zhang Xiaoqiang provided an in-depth analysis of China's high-quality energy development and security issues. He pointed out that China has established a comprehensive energy supply system encompassing coal, electricity, oil, natural gas, new energy, and renewable energy, with continuous improvement in technical equipment. Zhang stressed the critical role of technological innovation and industrial development in China's energy transition, advocating for the "establish first, then break" principle when building a new energy system and leveraging fossil fuels as a safety net for energy security.

Following the keynote speeches, Mr. Sun Xiansheng moderated a dialogue with the two distinguished guests, discussing topics such as potential energy policies of the new U.S. administration and China's current economic situation. Through interactive dialogue, participants gained clearer insights into the current international energy landscape and China's energy strategy.

The forum provided a platform for in-depth exchanges among experts and scholars in the energy field, addressing the opportunities and challenges facing the future of global energy. The International Society for Energy Transition remains committed to advancing the global energy transition process and supporting international cooperation and exchange.



### China's Climate Transition Outlook 2024: Expert Survey

Xunpeng Shi, Muji Yang, Ying Zhang

ISETS has designed and conducted an expert survey to analyze China's current progress toward its "dual carbon" goals. The survey features insights from 44 distinguished experts and industry leaders, both domestic and international, who are actively engaged in China's decarbonization efforts. Participants represent a diverse range of sectors, including academia, research institutions, government agencies, and executive roles in energy and sustainable development. This diversity ensures that the survey results are both comprehensive and authoritative. The survey covers a wide array of topics, including expectations for China's carbon dioxide emissions peak, total energy consumption, and projected carbon emissions across critical sectors such as power, industry, construction, and transportation.

The survey report is commissioned by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) and forms part of its annual China's Climate Transition Outlook series.

Read the full report here: [Expert survey report 2024](#)



## RECENT ACTIVITIES

### The Second ISETS International Conference Successfully Held in Nanjing

The International Society for Energy Transition Studies (ISETS) organized its second international conference on November 1-4, 2024, in Nanjing, in cooperation with College of Economics and Management, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics (NUAA).

The conference addressed critical issues in sustainable energy transition and the global response to climate change. Its goal is to facilitate a comprehensive dialogue on the intersection of energy policy, climate governance, and technological innovation by bringing together leading academics, analysts, policymakers, and industry experts. This conference aims to foster collaborative approaches and innovative solutions for a sustainable and equitable energy future in the context of global climate challenges.



### IFESD Youth Day & ISETS-ESCAP Youth Dialogue Forum Held in Bangkok

The International Society for Energy Transition Studies (ISETS), in partnership with ESCAP, is hosting the annual Youth Voice on Energy Transition program. This program includes two main components: the Global Competition of Youth Voice on Energy Transition (Youth Voice Competition) and the Youth Dialogue. This annual Youth Voice Competition provides a unique opportunity for young individuals worldwide to demonstrate their creative ideas, technologies, products, projects, and solutions that contribute to the development of sustainable energy systems.

This global competition attracted approximately 300 participants from 77 teams across 37 countries, fostering a collaborative platform to tackle sustainable development challenges and advance low-carbon energy transitions.

The winners and other participants of the 2024 Youth Voice Competition will be invited to take part in the ISETS-ESCAP Youth Dialogue. Before this dialogue, the winners will advance to the 2024 Global Final Competition, hosted by the Southwestern University of Finance and Economics in Chengdu, China, from November 28-30, 2024. This sequence of events offers a unique platform for these young leaders to showcase their innovative ideas, engage with their peers, and convey key messages on sustainable energy transition. Youth representatives from around the world will also join the dialogue to share their perspectives. In addition, the ISETS Youth Network for Energy Transition and Climate Action (ISETS Youth Network) provides a global platform that empowers young leaders to contribute actively to the global energy transition and climate action efforts. The network encourages collaboration, innovation, knowledge-sharing, and leadership development among youth committed to addressing global energy and climate challenges. The outcomes of the morning session will inform the youth activities in the afternoon, carrying forward the morning's discussions into broader themes of regional and international cooperation. This approach fosters a seamless, day-long continuity of dialogue and collaboration.

The ISETS-ESCAP Global Competition of Youth Voice on Energy Transition has demonstrated the immense creativity, commitment, and potential of young people, showcasing their ability and passion to address complex challenges with innovative ideas. Integrating digital platforms for broader participation, creating alumni networks for past participants, and building bridges between youth initiatives and policymakers are critical next steps.





## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### ISETS Launches Interest Groups for Specialized Engagement

The International Society for Energy Transition Studies (ISETS), a leading organization dedicated to advancing knowledge sharing and collaboration on the global energy transition, is pleased to announce the establishment of specialized interest groups. This initiative aims to deepen collective understanding and accelerate progress in critical areas of the energy transition. Members are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to connect, learn, and contribute to the shared goal of a sustainable energy future.

The first batch of interest groups focuses on three pivotal themes: Women, Hydrogen, and Clean Energy Transition Minerals. Each group is designed to serve as a platform for targeted discussions, resource sharing, and networking opportunities, addressing the unique challenges and opportunities within these areas.

#### About the ISETS Women Association (IWA) Group

The ISETS Women Association (IWA) Group is established with a mission to promote gender equality in science, particularly in the energy sector. We recognize the significant contributions women make to scientific research and innovation, and we are committed to creating a supportive environment that fosters their development and success. A key focus of IWA is advocating for the representation of women in scientific decision-making processes. We actively engage with policymakers and stakeholders to ensure that women’s perspectives and needs are prioritized in research funding and resource allocation. Additionally, we organize workshops, training sessions, and mentorship programs designed to enhance our members’ skills and knowledge. Our professional development initiatives aim to equip women scientists with the tools they need to advance their careers and assume leadership roles within their organizations.

#### About the Hydrogen Group

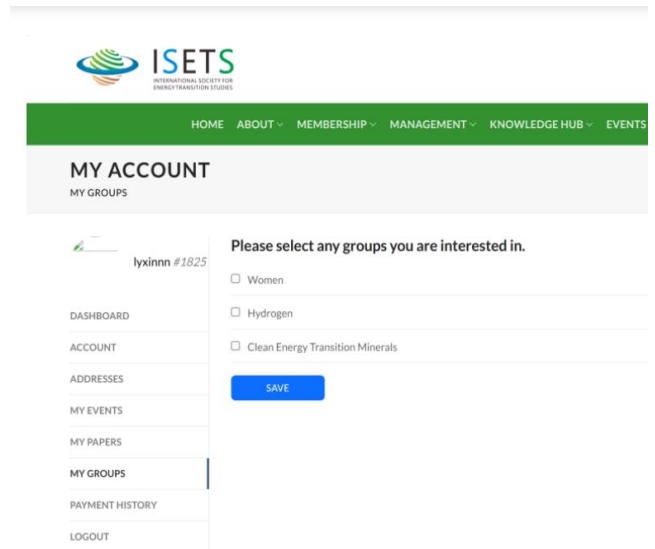
The ISETS Hydrogen Group is a dedicated research and innovation platform within ISETS, focusing on the transformative role of hydrogen in the global energy transition. The group’s mission is to accelerate the adoption of hydrogen as a clean, versatile, and sustainable energy carrier by addressing key challenges in production, storage, distribution, and utilization. The group is committed to establishing hydrogen as a cornerstone of the energy transition, contributing to global carbon neutrality goals while fostering economic development through innovation and sustainable practices. The ISETS Hydrogen Group invites researchers, practitioners, and organizations to collaborate and join efforts to realize a cleaner, hydrogen-powered future.

#### About the Group on Clean Energy Transition Minerals (CETM)

The ISETS Thematic Group on Clean Energy Transition Minerals (ISETS CETM Group) serves as a specialized platform focusing on the pivotal role of minerals in the clean energy transition. Our mission is to foster interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder collaboration and knowledge sharing to address challenges and opportunities in the sustainable sourcing, supply chain resilience, and governance of Clean Energy Transition Minerals (CETMs). We organize workshops, produce publications, initiate research projects, and host networking events to advance the understanding and management of CETMs within the global energy landscape. We maintain an active online presence, offering resources and opportunities for members to contribute to the sustainable energy transition discourse.

#### How to Join

For more information on joining the interest groups and staying updated on their activities, please visit the ISETS website at <https://isets.org/>. After logging in, navigate to the “My Account” webpage and click on “My Groups.”





## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### 3rd ISETS International Conference to Be Held in Japan, November 28–December 1

TOKYO, JAPAN (Date) — The International Society for Energy Transition Studies (ISETS) is pleased to announce its 3rd International Conference, scheduled to take place in Japan from November 28 to December 1 under the theme, “Collaborating amid Geopolitical Dynamics for a Sustainable Decarbonised Future.” Bringing together leading experts, professionals, and researchers from around the globe, this year’s conference will focus on fostering collaborative solutions, sharing the latest research, and examining the most pressing issues in the energy transition.

Hosted in one of Asia’s most innovative and dynamic cities, the 3rd ISETS International Conference will feature:

- Cutting-edge Presentations and Workshops – Attendees will gain insights into the latest findings in environmental sustainability, technological advancements, and policy research methods.
- Global Networking Opportunities – Professionals, researchers, and students from diverse backgrounds will gather to forge international partnerships and explore new avenues for research and collaboration.
- Interactive Panels and Roundtables – Internationally renowned speakers will lead in-depth discussions on emerging trends, novel technologies, policy developments, and the future of interdisciplinary research.

By convening the conference in Japan, ISETS aims to highlight the country’s achievements in energy research and environmental sustainability, while promoting meaningful exchange across geographical, cultural, and disciplinary boundaries. As part of its dedication to advancing knowledge and practice in energy transition, ISETS encourages all participants to leverage this unique platform to drive forward solutions, especially amid evolving global geopolitics, and work collectively toward a more sustainable, decarbonised future.

### Explore Opportunities with the CarbonX Program

ISETS is excited to share an opportunity for innovators in the low-carbon technology space!

The CarbonX Program (<https://carbonxprogram.com/en>), initiated by Tencent in collaboration with industry, investment, and ecosystem partners, offers substantial catalytic funding and resources to support emerging low-carbon technologies. The latest CarbonX 2.0 initiative focuses on breakthrough innovations in:

- Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS)
- Carbon Removal
- Long-Duration Energy Storage

How to Apply

Visit the official website to learn more and submit your proposal: <https://carbonxprogram.com/en>

What CarbonX 2.0 Offers

- Development of first-of-its-kind pilot projects in real industrial settings.
- Incubation of high-potential startups to accelerate commercialization.
- Support for capacity-building projects that enhance global low-carbon capabilities.

Who Can Apply?

The program invites applications from:

- Early-stage teams from universities and research institutes.
- Startups working on cutting-edge low-carbon technologies.

Stay Connected

Keep an eye on the ISETS website and social media for updates and details. This is a unique opportunity to collaborate, innovate, and contribute to advancing the global low-carbon transition. Don't miss out—apply today and take the next step in bringing your ideas to life!

### Contact US

Email: [info@carbonxprogram.com](mailto:info@carbonxprogram.com)





## About ISETS

ISETS is an independent, non-profit, global organisation headquartered in Sydney, Australia. ISETS is open to anyone who is interested. Registration (at [www.isets.org](http://www.isets.org)) as Associate Member is free permanently. Currently, ISETS has more than 1600 members from 80 countries.

ISETS dedicates to facilitating a just, equitable and inclusive transition of energy and relevant sectors toward a sustainable low-carbon future with consideration of economic development, social equity, and environmental stewardship through international partnerships.

ISETS creates a global dialogue platform to discuss, share and disseminate knowledge on the energy transition for professionals from government, industry, academia, research institutes and other organizations across countries.

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