“Long Term Low Carbon Development Pathways” Dual Plenary Session

Description

Coping with climate change is one of the main challenges in the field of energy economics. Policy choices, technological developments and many mitigation efforts will impact the long term pathways of economy as well as human welfare. In this DP session, speakers will discuss important issues of low carbon development.

Professor Andreas Loeschel will talk about long run transformation pathways as outlined in Chapter 6 of the 5th Assessment Report of the IPCC. He will describe near term and future policy choices, technologies and sectoral contributions to mitigation efforts. The economic costs under different assumptions are presented and assessed. A specific focus is on the tradeoff between climate action today and future option as well as on the role of the international climate architecture. A specific discussion of Europe’s 2050 energy and climate framework will be presented.

Professor Wenying Chen will introduce a few long term scenarios in China with the assumptions on future GDP growth, population, urbanization and industrial structure adjustment. The energy consumption and carbon emissions in power sector, and end-use demand sectors (industry, transportation and building) in China will be discussed. Based on the findings from the modeling, Long-term low carbon development pathways in China will be analyzed, including how to achieve the target of peaking carbon emission peak around 2030.

Dr. Olav Peter Hypher will focus on renewable energy development from a sustainable and environmentally friendly viewpoint. He will discuss the importance of regulatory frameworks for sustainability and will attempt at illustrating the consequences for investors through a set of private sector led projects in which environmental and social impacts have been neglected. Other examples will be used to demonstrate how potential risks have been minimised or mitigated. Conclusions will be drawn on how to successfully plan and implement sustainable projects in renewable energy.