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Community Centric Strategy for a Just Energy Transition

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Abstract

As the global energy landscape rapidly shifts toward renewable and sustainable energy, ensuring a just and equitable transition is now more imperative than ever. While technological innovation and investment are advancing energy transitions, these changes are often uneven across regions and communities. However, uneven transitions are not inherently unjust; they can instead present unique opportunities for innovation, investment, and localized development when guided by smart policies, supportive financing, and active community participation.

This presentation explores how meaningful community engagement can drive equitable energy transitions by aligning technological solutions with local needs, capacities, and socio-economic realities. It examines the role of inclusive decision-making, local ownership models, and participatory governance in building trust, improving adoption, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of energy projects. By placing people at the center of energy planning, communities can actively shape their energy futures while benefiting from cleaner, more resilient, and affordable systems.

Through case studies and practical examples, the session highlights how the three critical pillars—technology, affordability, and policy—intersect to enable community-driven energy systems that deliver both social and economic value. Attendees will gain insights into strategies for empowering communities, fostering resilience, and bridging the gap between technical solutions and social realities.