

gste Jahrestreffen 2019, 8. Nov. 2019, Jülich

SOZIO-ÖKONOMISCHE FORSCHUNGSSCHWERPUNKTE DES IEK-STE

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SYSTEMS APPROACH & MISSION

Traditional focus: Supplyside

- Techno-physical integrity
- Technology cost

New focus: Socio-technical configurations

'..., where technologies, institutions, actors, social practices and cultures mutually depend on each other, ...' [adapted from H. Rohracher, IJETM, 9 (2-3)]

Energy System

Energy Studies Need Social Science

- Socio-economic, life cycle thinking
- Society, actors and preferences
- Energy and externalities
- Sociology of technology
- [B. Sovacool: Nature (2014), Vol. 511, 529-530]

Mission:

Assessment of energy systems

- in the context of leitmotifs,
 e.g. Sustainable Development,
 Green Economy, ...,
- considering economic, environmental and social aspects



New Approaches for socio-technical Energy systems assessment



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EXPERTISE / ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



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New Approaches for socio-technical Energy systems assessment





EXEMPLARY STUDIES

Socio-Economic Impacts: The Transition to Renewable Energy Technologies – Impact on Economic Performance of North Rhine-Westphalia

Multi-Regional IO-Analysis for NRW

- MRIO modeling
 - 16 Federal States
 - Sectoral disaggregation
 - Foreign trade
 - Added value (wages/salary, taxes, profit)
- 5 impact channels
 - Operation of RET: Operation,Financing, Substitution
 - Production of RET: Production,
 Substituted investment



Aniello, G. et.al. (2019), Applied Sciences, Vol. 9, 3783



EXEMPLARY STUDIES

Energy, Pollution, Externalities: Levelized Cost of Energy from Private and Social Perspectives -The Case of Improved Alkaline Water Electrolysis-

Process-based Impact Assessment

- Process chain H₂ generation
 - Germany, Austria, Spain + upstream processes
 - LCAI-based environmental impacts
 - Monetary valuation of environmental impacts
- Levelized cost approach
 - Business/private vs societal perspectives
 - Corporate tax, discount rates
 - Monetarization of external environmental effects



Kuckshinrichs, W. et.al. (2018), Journal of Cleaner Production, Volume 203, 619-632



EXEMPLARY STUDIES

Life Cycle Thinking: Social LCA for Rare Earth NdFeB Permanent Magnets

Social LCA of RE magnets

- Technical modelling with spatial relation
 - Bayan Obo: China
 - − Mountain Pass: US → China → Japan
 - Mount Weld:
 Australia → Malaysia → China →
 Malaysia
- Social indicators
 - Fair Salary
 - Social security measures
 - Fatal accidents
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Werker, J. et.al. (2019), Sustainable Production and Consumption, Vol. 19, 257-269



OUTLOOK

Former IEK-STE

Clean and Reliable Energy Supply

- Techno-economical energy systems
- Programme Group
- Disciplinary focus: engineers

Current IEK-STE

Assessment of Energy

Systems

- Socio-technical energy systems
- Institute / no W3-Professorship
- Interdisciplinary: 50:50

Proposed Future IEK-STE

Sustainability Transformation of Energy Systems & Innovation/Diffusion

- Socio-technical energy systems & computational socio-economics
- Institute /W3-Professorship at RWTH - Business and Economics
- Interdisciplinary

From Clean and Reliable Energy Supply to Transformation of Socio-technical Energy Systems

- Actors' Perspectives
- Socio-technical Feasibility
- Innovation/Diffusion



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