

Special Issue

Green Transition Paths under the Carbon-Neutral Targets: Policy Design, Digital Governance, and Technological Progress

Message from the Guest Editors

Climate change is already affecting the entire world. In order to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, carbon neutrality by mid-21st century is essential. Under this backdrop, main economies take actions. Carbon mitigation policies are important and play essential roles. The development of green industries requires a large amount of capital input, which must rely on financial means to guide the market to increase investment. However, a large “green finance gap” exists in countries, and green financial systems always require optimization. Thus, it is necessary to encourage more social capital to be invested in green industries and promote technological progress to meet emission reduction commitments. The impact of digitization on the environment is uncertain. Digitalization helps to achieve sustainable development on one side through online resource-sharing and can optimize energy networks; however, on the other side, the digital industry is energy intensive and is a main emitter itself. In this manner, the questions of how to estimate its impact on the environment and how to shape its role in carbon mitigation are key issues that deserve more attention.

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