Rural transitions to net zero GHG emissions in Korea

13 June 2022
08:30-12:00 CET
15:30-19:00 KST
Rural transitions to net zero GHG emissions in Korea

What’s the issue?

Korea has adopted a net-zero greenhouse gas emissions target for 2050. It will require accelerating emissions reductions and give rise to new regional development and just transition challenges and opportunities. This also concerns rural regions. Among OECD countries, Korea has relatively high per capita emissions with a larger contribution from power and industry. Most greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Korea are generated in metropolitan regions, but in per capita terms emissions are particularly high in non-metropolitan regions. Socio-economic transformations related to the transition to net zero GHG emissions by 2050 could therefore be particularly impactful for rural regions and their populations. The needed rapid transition to zero-emission electricity will particularly concern rural regions. Some rural regions are highly specialized in tradable sectors, particularly in manufacturing, which are a key driver of regional competitiveness but will undergo deep transformations in the net-zero emissions transition. Rural regions are also particularly sensitive to the decarbonisation of transport. The net zero transition will also bring opportunities that may foster regionally-balanced wellbeing.

About the event

The event will consist of three sessions. OECD staff and representatives from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Korea (MOLIT) will present their analysis and policy action plans, followed by panel discussions. These will feature Korean experts and policy makers, including from the local and regional government level, as well as OECD staff. Participants can direct questions and comments to speakers.

Venue

The event will be held on-line: with internet-based participation of speakers and audience. To participate please register here.

Language

The event will be held in English, with Korean interpretation services.

Contact

Questions? Email us at Andres.FUENTES@oecd.org
### SESSION 1: Where do Korean rural regions stand in the transition to net zero GHG emissions in 2050?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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| 08:40 – 09:05 CET | Presentation: The net-zero emission transition in rural regions in Korea: Key indicators for the transition | Rüdiger Ahrend, Head of Division, Economic Analysis, Data and Statistics Division, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities (TBC)  
Wooje Lee, Director General for Policy Planning, MOLIT |
| 09:05 – 09:35 CET | Panel discussion: Challenges and opportunities for rural regions in Korea from moving to net zero GHG emissions in 2050 | Andrés Fuentes Hutfilter, Head of Unit, Regional Outlook and Environmental Economics, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities  
Valentina Ventricelli, Junior Policy Analyst, Regional Outlook and Environmental Economics, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities |

### SESSION 2: Getting to net zero emissions in 2050: Action in rural regions

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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<tr>
<td>09:35 – 10:00 CET</td>
<td>Presentation 1: Action plan by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Korea.</td>
<td>Moonseok Jang, Deputy director, MOLIT</td>
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<td>10:00 – 10:25 CET</td>
<td>Presentation 2: The OECD Rural Agenda for Climate Action</td>
<td>OECD staff will present the OECD’s Rural Agenda for Climate Action, highlighting the key role of rural regions in the transition to net zero. Rural regions provide key ecosystem services and resources for the transition but also have particularly high emissions per</td>
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**Notes:**
- **CET** refers to Central European Time (UTC+1).
- **KST** refers to Korea Standard Time (UTC+9).
The Rural Agenda for Climate Action further illustrates the need for much stronger and targeted rural policies.

**SPEAKERS**

Lisanne Raderschall, Policy Analyst, Regional and Rural Policy, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities

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<tr>
<td>10:25 – 10:55 CET</td>
<td>Panel discussion: session 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:55 – 11:20 CET</td>
<td>Presentation: Employment and just transition implications of the net-zero emission transition in rural regions in Korea. Socioeconomic vulnerabilities, regional employment and modelling projections</td>
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<td>11:20 – 11:50 CET</td>
<td>Panel discussion: session 3</td>
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<td>11:50 – 11:55 CET</td>
<td>Closing remarks</td>
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**DESCRIPTION**

- Panel Discussion and Q&A with policymakers and experts touching on topics from the 2 presentations.
- OECD staff will present data on employment in some sectors that may face particularly strong implications from the net-zero transitions. Chosen sectors will include those that will experience the biggest transformations, specifically in manufacturing, and those with employment risks and opportunities according to macroeconomic modelling. The presentation will also describe socio-economic characteristics of rural regions in Korea and their relationship to emissions to identify just transition challenges.
- Panel Discussion and Q&A with policymakers and experts touching on topics from the presentation.

**MODERATOR**

Sandra Hannig, Policy Analyst, Governance and Strategic Planning Unit Regional Development and Multilevel Governance Division, CFE, OECD

**SPEAKERS**

Dr. Dongju Kim, Senior Consultant, National Association of Mayors in Korea

Jesik Lee, Director of Energy, Chunchon-gunnam-do Province, Korea, TBC.

Andrés Fuentes Hutfilter, Head of Unit, Regional Outlook and Environmental Economics, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities.

Martin Valenti, Director for Net Zero, South of Scotland Enterprise, United Kingdom.

Rüdiger Ahrend, Head of Division, Economic Analysis, Data and Statistics Division, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities TBC.

Andrés Fuentes Hutfilter, Head of Unit, Regional Outlook and Environmental Economics, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities

Valentina Ventricelli, Junior Policy Analyst, Regional Outlook and Environmental Economics, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities

Chihwan Jeong, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Employment and Labor (MoEL), Korea

Dr. Dongju Kim, Senior Consultant, National Association of Mayors in Korea

Sander Happaerts, Policy coordinator Just Transition Fund at European Commission.

Rüdiger Ahrend, Head of Division, Economic Analysis, Data and Statistics Division, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities.