Political Economy of Renewable Energy Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Political Science and International Relations	**Duration**	5 Days
Base Fee	$1,500 USD	**Delivery Mode**	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

This course provides a comprehensive exploration of the **political economy** of the **renewable energy transition**. It moves beyond the technical aspects of renewable technologies to analyze the complex interplay of **power**, **policy**, and **markets** that shape the global energy landscape. Participants will gain a critical understanding of how political decisions, economic incentives, and social dynamics drive or impede the shift from fossil fuels to clean energy. We'll delve into the geopolitical implications, regulatory frameworks, and financial mechanisms that are central to this transformative process.

Political Economy of Renewable Energy Training Course is designed to empower professionals with the strategic foresight and analytical tools needed to navigate the complexities of the **global energy transition**. By examining case studies from diverse geographical contexts, we will uncover how different political systems and economic structures influence the adoption and scalability of renewable energy. The course emphasizes the crucial role of **governance**, **energy justice**, and **sustainable development** in shaping an equitable and resilient energy future. Our goal is to equip a new generation of leaders to not only understand, but actively shape, a low-carbon world.

Programme Curriculum

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Course Duration

5 days

Course Objectives

- Analyze global energy governance and its impact on renewable energy policy.
- Evaluate the political and economic drivers of the energy transition.
- Assess the geopolitical implications of renewable energy development.
- Examine the role of international financial institutions in funding clean energy projects.
- Understand the concept of energy justice and its application in policymaking.
- Explore the dynamics of carbon pricing and other market-based mechanisms.
- Critically analyze the "resource curse" in the context of renewable energy.
- Identify policy tools and regulatory frameworks for accelerating renewable deployment.
- Deconstruct the political challenges of phasing out fossil fuel subsidies.
- Develop a strategic framework for navigating energy sector reforms.
- Evaluate the impact of technological innovation on energy markets and policy.
- Assess the role of sub-national and local governments in the transition.
- Formulate actionable strategies for sustainable and equitable energy systems.

Organizational Benefits

- Better able to anticipate and adapt to changes in energy policy and markets.
- Equipped to identify and mitigate political and economic risks associated with energy projects.
- Positioned to capitalize on emerging opportunities in the green economy and carbon markets.
- Skilled in engaging with policymakers and navigating complex regulatory landscapes.
- Capable of designing and implementing projects that are both economically viable and socially equitable.

Target Audience

- Policymakers and Government Officials in energy, environment, and economic ministries.
- Energy Sector Professionals in utilities, oil and gas companies, and renewable energy firms.
- Development Practitioners from NGOs, international organizations, and aid agencies.
- Financial Analysts and Investors focused on clean energy and sustainable finance.
- Academics and Researchers in political science, economics, and environmental studies.
- Corporate Sustainability Leaders and CSR professionals.
- Journalists and Media Professionals covering energy and climate issues.
- Community Leaders and advocates for energy equity.

Course Outline

Module 1: Foundations of Energy Transition

- Historical Context: The evolution from fossil fuels to a globalized energy system.
- Core Concepts: Defining the political economy of energy, including power, institutions, and rent-seeking.
- The Energy Trilemma: Balancing energy security, environmental sustainability, and economic development.
- Stakeholder Analysis: Mapping the interests of governments, corporations, and civil society.
- **Case Study**: The German ***Energiewende***?Çöanalyzing the political and social drivers of its ambitious transition.

Module 2: Geopolitics of Renewable Energy

- Shifting Power Dynamics: How the move to renewables is reshaping international relations.
- Supply Chain Competition: The political economy of rare earth minerals and critical raw materials.
- Trade Wars and Green Protectionism: Examining tariffs and trade barriers in the solar and wind industries.
- Emerging Energy Superpowers: The rise of nations with abundant renewable resources.
- **Case Study**: China's dominance in the **solar PV supply chain** and its geopolitical implications.

Module 3: Policy and Regulatory Frameworks

- Policy Instruments: Feed-in tariffs, renewable portfolio standards, and auctions.
- The Role of Regulation: Grid integration, interconnection policies, and market design.
- Decentralization: The political economy of distributed energy systems and microgrids.
- Carbon Governance: The politics of emissions trading schemes (ETS) and carbon taxes.
- **Case Study**: The European Union's **Green Deal**?Çöassessing its political feasibility and economic impacts.

Module 4: Financing the Transition

- Investment Barriers: Overcoming policy uncertainty and financial risk in developing countries.
- Public and Private Finance: The role of green bonds, sovereign funds, and development banks.
- Phasing Out Subsidies: The political challenges of reforming fossil fuel subsidies.
- Just Transition Finance: Funding mechanisms to support workers and communities.
- **Case Study**: The financing of large-scale **hydropower projects** in sub-Saharan Africa, examining debt, governance, and environmental concerns.

Module 5: Energy Justice and Equity

- Defining Energy Justice: Distributive, procedural, and recognitional justice in the energy transition.
- Energy Poverty: The political and economic dimensions of energy access.
- Community Engagement: The role of public participation in renewable energy project siting.
- Labor and Workforce: Addressing the social implications of job losses in the fossil fuel sector.
- **Case Study**: **The Dakota Access Pipeline Protests**?Çöa political economy analysis of indigenous rights, environmental justice, and energy infrastructure.

Module 6: Technological Innovation and Disruption

- Innovation Systems: The political economy of research and development (R&D) in clean tech.
- Disruptive Technologies: The policy implications of battery storage, green hydrogen, and smart grids.
- Digitalization of Energy: Data governance and the political economy of smart meters.
- Technology Transfer: The politics of intellectual property and technology dissemination.

- **Case Study**: The ***Tesla*** and ***SolarCity*** merger, analyzing the political and market strategies of an innovative firm.

Module 7: Political Economy of Climate Change

- International Climate Regimes: The politics of the Paris Agreement and international negotiations.
- National Politics: The role of political parties, interest groups, and public opinion.
- Climate Populism: Understanding anti-climate and pro-fossil fuel political movements.
- Adaptation vs. Mitigation: The political choice between addressing climate impacts and preventing them.
- **Case Study**: The **U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement**, an analysis of domestic political dynamics and their global ramifications.

Module 8: The Future of Energy Governance

- Polycentric Governance: The rise of sub-national, city, and corporate climate action.
- Global vs. Local: Balancing international targets with local economic and social needs.
- Building a New Paradigm: Imagining a post-fossil fuel political economy.
- Action Planning: Participants develop a strategic action plan for their organization.
- **Case Study**: **Denmark's wind power revolution**?Çöhow sustained political commitment and public-private partnerships created a global industry.

Training Methodology

This training employs a **blended learning approach** to ensure a dynamic and practical experience. Methodologies include:

- **Interactive Lectures**: Engaging presentations with Q&A sessions.
- **Case Study Analysis**: In-depth group discussions and presentations on real-world scenarios.
- **Role-Playing Simulations**: Participants assume roles of key stakeholders in energy policy negotiations.
- **Expert Panel Discussions**: Guest speakers from government, academia, and industry share their insights.
- **Practical Exercises**: Hands-on activities to apply analytical frameworks to current events.
- **Peer-to-Peer Learning**: Participants learn from each other's diverse experiences and backgrounds.

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call *+254769199797*

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

a. The participant must be conversant with English.

b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate

c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.

d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.

e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.

f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Online	$1,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$1,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$4,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000

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