

Expert Workshop: Digitalisation Narratives and Climate Change Mitigation

May 13-14, 2024

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Vienna, Austria

WORKSHOP OUTLINE

** detailed agenda, participant list, and logistics docs are circulated separately **

Summary

A one and a half day in-person workshop at IIASA will bring together 35 researchers and practitioners working on the impacts of digitalisation on energy, the economy, markets, society, and governance institutions. The workshop takes a future-oriented perspective to understand how these impacts may help or hinder efforts to mitigate global climate change.

The aims of the workshop are:

1. To map out future narratives of how digitalisation may impact emission reduction efforts, using participatory system dynamics methods.
2. To explore interactions between digitalisation impact narratives across energy, economy, society, and governance systems.
3. To explicitly link digitalisation as a driver of change with scenario and modelling frameworks used in global climate change mitigation analysis.

The intended outcome of the workshop is that long-term mitigation pathways used in IPCC assessments to inform global and national climate policy should account for the dynamics and impacts of digitalisation on the economy and society.

Outline Agenda

Day 1: Mapping impacts [12:00 - 18:00] then dinner in Vienna

- short impulse talks on main types of digitalisation impacts on energy, economy, society, and governance
- short introduction to system dynamics mapping techniques
- plenary & breakout sessions to map drivers and dynamics of digitalisation impacts in different systems

Day 2: Future narratives [09:00 - 16:00] with lunch

- short impulse talks on futures thinking & scenario narratives, and on the SSP framework used in global climate change mitigation analysis
- plenary & breakout sessions to build digitalisation dynamics into alternative future narratives, and to map linkages with SSP storylines
- closing session on how to make digitalisation more explicit in modelling and analysis of global mitigation pathways

Participants

Confirmed participants (n=34) bring expertise from research and practice on

- digitalisation impacts on energy, industry, jobs, skills, economy
- digitalisation impacts on society, institutions, governance
- digital policy, regulation, risks
- futures thinking, scenarios, system dynamics
- global climate mitigation scenarios and modelling

Venue & logistics

The in-person workshop will be held at IIASA (Laxenburg, Austria).

A shuttle bus will leave from Vienna main railway station to bring workshop participants to IIASA on Monday (leaving 11.30) and Tuesday (leaving 08.30), and returning to Vienna on Monday (arriving 18.30) and Tuesday (arriving 16.30).

Sponsoring projects & institutions

Main sponsors:

- The [2D4D project](#) on disruptive digitalisation for decarbonisation
- The [iDODDLE project](#) on digitalisation of daily life and climate change

Additional support from:

- The [EDITS network](#) on energy demand changes induced by technological and social innovation
- The [International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis](#) as part of a programme of research on social tipping dynamics
- The [CircEUlar project](#) on circular economy and net-zero pathways
- The [RCN-DEE network](#) on the digital economy and environment

Contacts

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