

Reflections on the 2022 International Conference on Fossil Fuel Supply and Climate Policy

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October 4, 2022



I had the opportunity to attend the 2022 International Conference on Fossil Fuel Supply and Climate Policy in Oxford, United Kingdom, organized by the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). Having worked at SEI during the past months organizing the conference, attending the conference was a rewarding experience and I believe I benefitted largely from the opportunity in multiple ways. The conference was held at the Queen's College in Oxford on September 26th and 27th, with over a hundred participants attending.

The central topic of the conference was the supply of fossil fuels, with sessions touching upon the various related topics such as supply-side policies to curb fossil fuels production, mechanisms for just transition in producer countries, financing the transition to net zero, and indigenous resistance to fossil fuels

production. I was able to attend the sessions on the economics of fossil fuel production, net zero and carbon removal, stranded assets, etc. While my research interest is focused on the renewable energy sector that affects the demand of fossil fuels, attending the conference on fossil fuel supply was incredibly insightful in formulating ideas and discovering applicable methodologies for my personal research and capstone project. For example, I found the presentation on the use of machine learning in climate policy to be very fascinating, as such a tool may have a much wider application in synthesizing climate policy and providing global insights by combing through large amounts of data.¹ Furthermore, the use of network analysis in identifying financial actors in the fossil fuel supply sector inspired myself to explore the possibility of expanding the analysis into the renewable energy sector.²

Aside from the academic portion of the conference, I was also able to make many meaningful connections with the researchers in attendance. The conference was organized with an emphasis on incorporating younger academics to foster connections and

¹ Fatih Uenal, 2022, *Machine learning classification of supply-side fossil fuel policies (presentation)*, International Conference on Fossil Fuel Supply and Climate Policy, Oxford, U.K.

² Dordi et al., 2022, *Ten Financial Actors can accelerate a transition away from fossil fuels*, Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions, Vol.44. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eist.2022.05.006>

collaborations, which I believe was effective in promoting an environment open to exchanging newer ideas and providing guidelines for the early career professionals including myself. Attending the conference was meaningful for me as I found myself further motivated to pursue a career in academic research, having received valuable insights and advice from senior researchers I met at the conference through networking hours and dinners.

Finally, I would like to thank the Center for International Environment and Resource Policy (CIERP) for providing me with the CIERP travel grant which made this meaningful opportunity possible.