

Comparative / Interactive / Practical Research on  
Energy Transition and Democracy  
in East Asian Countries

# Energy Democracy in Energy Transition – Issues, Barriers, Lesson learned

Level <Value>	Japan	Korea	Taiwan
National <Deliberation>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exclusion of progressive experts &amp; lack of public participation</li> <li>- Government policy not supportive RE nor community power</li> <li>- Some mass medias' negative report for PV</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Energy governance bodies: Participation of experts, NGO Activists &amp; business communities in decision-making processes (including National Energy Plans)</li> <li>- Conflicts and controversies over locating renewable energy facilities</li> <li>- Strong resistance from anti-energy transition groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monopolized electricity market(&amp;Taipower) is currently undergoing reform within 6-9 years</li> <li>- Strengthening Energy governance structure</li> <li>- “Energy Transition White Paper” engaged cross-sector experts co-produced action plans</li> </ul>
Local <Decentralization>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Autonomy is limited by the budget shortage</li> <li>- Local public officer remain conservative</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reluctance to actively participate in energy transition activities</li> <li>- Local autonomy is still limited in regards to policy decision-making and implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local governments lack of resource and knowledge about energy issues</li> </ul>
Community <Self-determination>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grid barrier to connect</li> <li>- Recent bad image of PV in mountains and nature</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attempts to adopt benefit sharing system is still limited</li> <li>- Green vs. green conflicts; Land competition between agricultural and energy farming</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grid barrier to connect</li> <li>- Controversies over land use, onshore wind (noise) and PV (threatening habitats/ecological landscape)</li> </ul>

# Energy Democracy in Energy Transition – Opportunities and challenges

Level <Value>	Japan	Korea	Taiwan
National <Deliberation>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FIT still remained</li> <li>- Experiences &amp; lessons of the period of DP Admin. to be shared &amp; reflected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Political will and citizens' support</li> <li>- Energy prices not reflecting true costs of supplying energy</li> <li>- Monopolized electricity market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Political leaders have strong will toward energy transition (nuclear phase-out, increase RE, etc.)</li> <li>- Pro-nuclear group promotes nuclear comeback referendum</li> <li>- Low energy prices</li> </ul>
Local <Decentralization>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progressive Local Autonomy Law</li> <li>- Some innovative local governments can show its progressiveness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some local governments including Seoul are making progress in energy transition activities</li> <li>- Strong support from local energy transition advocacy groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Established 16 local green energy offices for capacity building &amp; implementation</li> <li>- 3-year Central-Local Government Energy-Saving Partnerships encourages innovative actions</li> </ul>
Community <Self-determination>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Over 250 Community Powers exist</li> <li>- Community power more perceived as "good"</li> <li>- Solar agriculture become popular</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Citizens' voluntary involvement in energy transition activities (coops, social enterprises, mini PVs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only 1 community power cooperative (2016); several others under planning</li> <li>- Needs to broaden social base for RE</li> </ul>