



INETTT
International
Network of
Energy Transition
Think Tanks

INETTT's inaugural Energy System Analytics Training in Istanbul a success

From 2-4 July 2024, the International Network of Energy Transition Think Tanks' first ever Energy System Analytics Training took place in Istanbul, Türkiye. The event was hosted by INETTT member and local think tank SHURA Energy Transition Centre in collaboration with Agora Energiewende's Energy Data and Modelling Team. The aim of the training was to enhance participants' skills in applying data-driven narratives, highlighting the critical role that modern energy sector data analytics play in building convincing narratives for the energy transition. The INETTT Secretariat facilitated this gathering.

A diverse group of professionals from 12 different countries across four continents gathered for the training, representing a broad spectrum of expertise – from energy policy analysts to data scientists. This diversity enriched the discussions, providing valuable international perspectives on global challenges and strategies related to the energy transition. Participants exchanged insights on how data analytics can be applied and adapted to various regional and energy policy contexts.

The three-day training program covered a comprehensive pipeline for building fact-based policy recommendations. The first day focused on effectively harvesting and structuring data from different sources. Day two delved into creating compelling visualisations and narratives. The final day introduced participants to the energy system modelling techniques most relevant for policy analysis.

An interactive "Data Clinic" session allowed participants to collaboratively troubleshoot real data challenges. This included implementing a data pipeline to automate the collection, handling and processing of data from source, culminating in setting up a web interface to not only deliver data to users but frame it in a way that supports organisations' research and messaging.

The training also encouraged participants to reflect on the importance of data-driven narratives and how careful data analysis can influence energy policy decisions. In a practical session on building compelling data stories, participants were given a dataset and in teams had to analyse and present the impacts of COVID-19 on the energy sector. Working in teams, they identified key messages and target audiences, then applied their newly gained skills to extract and visualise information effectively to create impactful narratives. This exercise underscored the power of evidence-based stories in persuading stakeholders and guiding policy frameworks.

The closing "Possible Future INETTT Collaborations" session generated many promising ideas for future partnerships. To sustain these connections, a LinkedIn channel has been established as a platform for ongoing communication and collaboration among participants.

The INETTT Energy System Analytics Training served as a vital platform for strengthening the international energy community, fostering a network of professionals to share experiences and expertise in their respective energy sectors. It equipped participants with advanced analytical skills and emphasised the importance of collaborative efforts in advancing global energy policies – by identifying common challenges and committing to tackle them together.