

Strategic and Socioeconomic Studies in Hydrogen Energy

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Abstract

The introduction of hydrogen as an energy carrier is not only a technology and science challenge, also requiring the engagement of many socioeconomic disciplines. Analysing the conventional economic implications of different potential manifestations of a hydrogen economy is important, but so is the inclusion of externality assessment. New business models and financing schemes need to be developed to help us understand the balance between short and long term costs and rewards, and between private and social impacts. The behaviour and perceptions of different actors in any possible transition and future have a strong bearing on whether or not it can ever reach fruition, and methods such as actor and transition analysis can assist in their evaluation. All of these disciplines and more must be linked with the science, technology and engineering aspects of hydrogen energy deployment in order to assess its potential and derive appropriate methods of support.

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