

Impacts of decent living on national and global carbon emissions

Topic: How the rising of emerging economies can reshape the world? II (Chair: Jing Meng, University College London)

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There is growing international awareness of the need to promote everyone's basic living standard. In order to assess the environmental impacts, we quantify the global CO₂ emission embodied in the material underpinnings of decent living standards (DLS) in providing decent food, clothing, housing, sanitation, health, education, water, electricity, mobility and ICT within countries. There are considerable gaps in DLS across the world, especially between developed countries and emerging countries. Many countries have formulated national emission limitation contributions (EMCS) for reducing the emissions. For emerging countries, due to the low proportion of population living has meet DLS in 2019, more carbon emissions may be required for achieving DLS in the future, which may have a great possibility of the failure of the emission reduction targets proposed by the country. The results provide quantitative evidence currently lacking and critical to policy decision making about achieving DLS in a carbon-constrained world.