POSITIVE TIPPING POINTS AS EFFECTIVE CLIMATE POLICY TOOLS

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Climate-related tipping points have been extensively discussed in the literature. However, positive tipping points, in which rapid-nonlinear societal change helps reduce emissions and transition to a sustainable global economy, have only just begun to be debated. In this presentation, we will cover key empirical examples where low-carbon tipping points have or can be activated, as key leverage elements to reduce emissions, including solar energy and electric mobility. We discuss macroeconomic ramifications that positive tipping points can have, including increased productivity, but also increased inequality and possible financial risk. We discuss activating targeted positive tipping points as an effective approach for to reduce emissions. This narrative contrast with the traditional approach where action is typically limited to imposing price signals based on carbon emissions, with which there is no guarantee that markets autonomously deliver deep decarbonisation.