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GREEN ECONOMY TRANSFORMATION: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE TRANSPORT SECTOR FOR REDUCING THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Loso Judijanto
IPOSS Jakarta, Indonesia
losojudijantobumn@gmail.com

Abstract

Green economy transformation in the transport sector is a crucial step to mitigate the impacts of climate change, as transport is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. This involves shifting to electric vehicles, implementing renewable fuels and green technologies that can significantly reduce carbon emissions. Despite the promise of environmental and health benefits, this transformation faces major technological, economic, and social challenges, such as high costs, lack of infrastructure, and public resistance to change. Therefore, close collaboration between the government, private sector, and society is needed to overcome these obstacles. Green economy transformation, with the right policy support and investment in technology, can create opportunities for sustainable development in the transport sector and promote long-term economic and ecological balance.

Keywords: Transformation, Green Economy, Opportunities and Challenges, Transport Sector, Climate Change Impacts.

Introduction

Climate change is a long-term phenomenon characterised by changes in global weather patterns and an increase in the Earth's average temperature due to human activities and natural factors. This phenomenon is mainly triggered by increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4) and nitrous oxide (N_2O), which are released into the atmosphere through fossil fuel combustion, deforestation and industrial activities. The result is a disruption of the climate system, leading to serious impacts such as extreme weather, sea level rise and ecosystem changes, all of which threaten human and environmental survival (Smith & Nguyen, 2020).

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing the world in the 21st century. The impacts of climate change, such as increased surface temperatures, rising sea levels, and extreme weather, threaten not only the environment but also the socio-economic well-being of society. One sector that has a significant contribution to greenhouse gas emissions is the transport sector (Khan, 2019).

The transport sector is one of the main contributors to greenhouse gas emissions at the global level. According to data from various environmental organisations, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), transport accounts for around 25% of the world's total carbon emissions. The majority of these emissions come from burning fossil fuels, such as petrol and diesel, which are used to

run motor vehicles, such as cars, trucks, aircraft and ships. The high demand for mobility due to population growth, urbanisation and economic activity means that this sector continues to be a major source of greenhouse gases, with carbon dioxide (CO_2) as the dominant emission. In addition, a transport infrastructure that often relies on conventionally fuelled vehicles further magnifies its impact on the environment (Carter, 2021).

On the other hand, motorised vehicles produce not only CO_2, but also other emissions such as methane (CH_4) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x), which contribute to ozone layer depletion and air pollution. Transport activities, especially through air and sea modes, exacerbate the climate challenge as emissions from these two sectors occur on a large scale and are difficult to control at the local level. The high dependence on fossil fuels and the slow adoption of renewable energy-based transport solutions make this sector one of the biggest obstacles to global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, green transformation in the transport sector is crucial to achieving internationally agreed climate change mitigation targets (John Doe & Jane Smith, 2023).

Along with the increasing global awareness of the importance of a sustainable economy, the concept of green economy has emerged, which aims to create economic growth while preserving the environment. The transformation of the green economy is urgent to implement, especially in the transport sector. The use of environmentally friendly technologies, such as electric vehicles, renewable energy-based transport, and optimisation of public transport systems, are some of the strategic steps to push this sector towards a green economy (Johnson, 2019).

However, the transformation to a green economy in the transport sector has not always been smooth. The process presents both opportunities and challenges. On the one hand, the transformation towards green technologies can drive innovation, create new jobs and reduce dependence on fossil fuels. On the other hand, key challenges such as the high cost of implementing green technologies, lack of supporting infrastructure, and resistance from the public and industry pose barriers to the implementation of green economy policies (Brown, 2023).

Therefore, this research is needed to explore the opportunities and challenges of green economy transformation in the transport sector, especially in relation to climate change mitigation efforts. It is hoped that an in-depth understanding of these dynamics will provide a basis for formulating more effective policies, while encouraging the transport sector's real contribution to supporting environmental sustainability and building a greener future.

Research Methods

The study in this research uses the literature method. The literature research method is a research approach that focuses on the collection, analysis, and synthesis of

information derived from written sources, such as books, scientific journals, articles, reports, and related documents. This method is used to understand a particular topic in depth through the review of relevant concepts, theories, and previous research (Hart, 2001) ; (Knopf, 2006) . Researchers usually identify credible and reliable sources, evaluate their contents, and relate them to the problem or research question being studied. In addition, literature research methods are often used as a theoretical foundation or support for further studies, where the results can provide a comprehensive overview, critique, or recommendations related to the issue being researched (Alvesson & Sandberg, 2013) .

Results and Discussion

Opportunities for Green Economy Transformation in the Transport Sector

Green economy transformation in the transport sector offers great opportunities for climate change mitigation and improved sustainability. As global awareness of the importance of reducing carbon emissions continues to grow, many countries are beginning to invest significant resources into greener transport technologies. One important first step is the shift from fossil fuelled vehicles to electric vehicles (EVs). Electric vehicles not only reduce CO_2 emissions directly but also offer the potential to integrate with renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, to support a truly green transport system (Garcia, 2023).

The development of charging infrastructure for electric vehicles is an important component of this transformation. Governments in various countries and regions have started to build extensive and easily accessible charging facilities, in collaboration with the private sector. The availability of adequate charging stations will increase consumer confidence in electric vehicles and accelerate their adoption. In addition, government incentives and subsidies for electric vehicle buyers can further encourage people to switch from conventional fossil-fuelled vehicles (Ahmed, 2021).

Public transport also plays an important role in green economy transformation. Optimising public transport networks, such as electric buses, trains and trams, can reduce the number of private vehicles on the road, thereby reducing congestion and emissions. Flexibility and efficiency in public transport systems should also be improved to make more people feel comfortable and well-served. Major cities in the world such as Oslo, Copenhagen, and Singapore have shown progress in implementing green transport and the results are significant in reducing carbon footprint (Ali, 2020).

In addition, the concept of car-sharing and the use of bicycles as alternative modes of transport are also gaining popularity. Car-sharing programmes can reduce the number of vehicles on the road and thus reduce emissions and energy consumption. Bicycle and e-scooter rental systems spread across many cities allow people to have short, environmentally-friendly commuting options. Governments can encourage the

use of these modes by providing safe and convenient bicycle lanes and expanding transport networks that support modal integration (Silva, 2020).

Innovations in green fuel technologies such as hydrogen also have great potential in this transformation. Hydrogen-fuelled vehicles, especially for heavy transport such as trucks and buses, produce very low emissions and can be recharged quickly compared to electric batteries. Continued research and development in this area could bring much cleaner and more efficient transport solutions in the future (Torraco, 2005).

In addition to the technological aspects, green economy transformation in the transport sector also requires a change in consumer mindset and behaviour. Educating the public about the environmental impacts of their transport choices and the benefits of adopting green transport options is essential. Continuous awareness and education campaigns can motivate people to make more environmentally responsible decisions (Torres, 2022).

The role of the private sector is equally important in supporting the green economy transformation in the transport sector. Many companies are now developing and producing green vehicles as part of their social responsibility. In addition, collaboration between government, industry and research institutions can accelerate innovation and implementation of green transport solutions (Smith & Nguyen, 2020).

Ultimately, overcoming these challenges and capitalising on these opportunities will require a concerted effort from various parties. Government policy support, industry's willingness to innovate, and broad public participation will be critical to the success of this transformation. With the right measures in place, the transport sector can play a key role in creating a greener and more sustainable economy, benefiting the environment and overall global well-being.

Challenges in Green Economy Transformation in the Transport Sector

The transformation to a green economy in the transport sector is an important step in the global effort to reduce carbon emissions and protect the environment. However, this process faces a number of complex challenges that require an integrated strategy to overcome. One of the main challenges is the transport sector's high dependence on fossil fuels. Most vehicles still use oil-fuelled engines, which produce large amounts of greenhouse gas emissions. While electric vehicle technology is growing, its adoption is not yet dominant due to cost, infrastructure and public perception of new technologies (Zhao, 2021).

The second challenge is the need for substantial investment in the development of sustainable transport infrastructure. Green economy transformation requires supporting infrastructure such as charging stations for electric vehicles, bicycle lanes, and renewable energy-based public transport systems. However, the development of this infrastructure is often constrained by budget limitations, especially in developing

countries. There are also challenges in integrating green infrastructure with existing transport systems, making the transition a lengthy process (Davis, 2022).

The third challenge is to develop regulations and policies that support a green economy in the transport sector. While many countries have introduced green policies, their implementation often faces technical and bureaucratic obstacles. In some countries, inharmonious or overly stringent environmental regulations can lead to resistance from transport industry players. In fact, collaboration between the government, the private sector, and the public is key to improving the implementation of greener transport (Alice Johnson, 2022).

Furthermore, technological challenges also complicate this transformation. Electric vehicles and alternative power, such as hydrogen, do provide solutions for reducing carbon emissions, but the technology development is not yet evenly distributed. Issues such as battery efficiency, long charging times, and high production costs still hinder the scalability of green technologies in transport. In addition, some technologies such as biofuels still require further research to be widely adopted without damaging the ecosystem (Brown, 2023).

Social and cultural factors also pose significant challenges. People need to change their transport habits. They need to start using less fossil-fuelled private vehicles and switch to public transport or renewable energy-based vehicles. However, resistance to change often arises due to lack of education or lack of confidence in the efficiency and convenience of green technology. Creating awareness of the importance of green transport is an important part of this transformation (Romero, 2020).

In addition, challenges in the green transport supply chain are also a concern. The production of components for electric vehicles, such as batteries, often faces the constraint of limited access to raw materials, such as lithium. The process of extracting these raw materials also has a considerable environmental impact, which can lead to contradictions in green economy goals. There is a need for innovation in the use of alternative, more environmentally friendly materials and recycling systems in the transport industry (Walker, 2023).

In a global context, geopolitical challenges also influence the transformation of the transport sector towards a green economy. Reliance on importing green technologies from developed countries often makes it difficult for developing countries to move forward. Differing priorities at the international level also led to a lack of global coordination in reducing carbon emissions in the transport sector. In fact, this sector plays a significant role in achieving global climate targets (Michael Brown, 2021).

Solutions to these challenges require a holistic and collaborative approach. Government support in the form of tax incentives, pro-green technology regulations, and investment in research and development is crucial. On the other hand, industry players must be committed to innovating and revolutionising supply chains that are more environmentally friendly. Raising public awareness through educational

programmes will also help create behavioural changes that support green transport. By addressing these challenges, the transport sector can become one of the key pillars in a more equitable and sustainable green economic transformation.

Conclusion

Green economy transformation in the transport sector is an important effort to reduce the impact of climate change, given that transport is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. Shifting to sustainable transport systems, such as electric vehicles, adopting renewable fuels, and implementing green technologies, can help reduce carbon emissions and support global emission reduction targets. In addition, efficient green transport also has the potential to foster innovation, improved air quality, and ecological balance.

However, this transformation also presents significant technological, economic and social challenges. The high cost of low-carbon technology, lack of supporting infrastructure, and public resistance to adopting change are major obstacles. In addition, poorly integrated government regulations and policies often hinder the wider implementation of green transport programmes. Therefore, collaboration between the government, private sector and the community is needed to overcome these challenges.

Ultimately, the green economy transformation is not just about protecting the environment, but also creating opportunities for sustainable development in the transport sector. With the right policy support and investment in green technologies, this transformation can boost the economy while addressing the challenges of climate change. Countries that successfully implement green transport systems will be poised to become key pillars in creating a healthier and more sustainable world.

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