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# WILL CURRENT GLOBAL CLIMATE GOVERNANCE DELIVER?

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## THE MAIN THESIS

The Global climate governance (GCG) that is currently pursued may face a “reality chasm” between what domestic actors can deliver and the Paris agreement obligations. Multilevel, multi-scalar, and multiplex governance structures have emerged over the years in response to the complex climate change issue. **Can GCG establish the required influence channels on domestic actors to forge the intended energy transition toward NetZero by 2050?**

## BACKGROUND

GCG has gradually evolved from a 'top-down' model to a more inclusive model, involving to a greater extent social and economic partners, and over time also domestic actors, throughout the policy cycle. As time runs out to mitigate greenhouse gases, GCG is “*at the crossroads*” and that important choices lie ahead in the immediate future.

The issue of climate change is multidimensional and cuts across several policy areas, particularly environmental, economic, and foreign policy. Most decisions regarding climate change made at the global level are *not binding* and the implementation relies on the effectiveness of GCG to influence domestic actors. Consequently, it is reasonable to assume that the paradigms that operate in each of these policy areas have contributed to domestic actors' understanding of the climate change problem and the most appropriate way to respond to it.

The cross-border, cross-sectoral, and multi-stakeholder nature of many global governance initiatives has in turn meant that GCG has become increasingly Multilevel Governance. The network of governments was transformed whereby the authority of decision-making and policy planning was reallocated into a system of multilevel governance. The framework of domestic governance comprises modes of governing in which the state plays a less authoritative role, that is, modes of governing that do not exclusively rely on the sovereign authority, legitimacy, or sanctions of governments for their governing capacity. Thus, domestic actors have more autonomy in their own decisions. This means that both public and private actors are engaged in policy networks, voluntary self-regulating arrangements, and non-coercive forms of state governing or voluntary agreements.

More autonomous domestic governance stakeholders are increasingly viewed as an innovative force driving climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. GCG requires that in taking a coproduction approach, knowledge and policy innovation can transcend the domestic and permeate across all tiers of domestic and global governance. However, the capacity of domestic stakeholders to pursue autonomous actions is partially dependent on the delivery of adequate resources from other tiers of governance. Also, coordination means bringing together a collection of actors to coordinate their work and ensuring that the outcome promotes GCG. Moreover, uncoordinated autonomous actions taken by some stakeholder groups could shift risk to others if not integrating the needs of the wider community.

Resistance to domestic governance might arise from a conflict of interest between GCG goals and domestic actors arises. Cutting emissions depend heavily on economic activities; thereby, GCG based on domestic governance endows domestic actors with the potential to exert structural pressure on policymakers. Emission reductions are closely linked to economic activities in major industries, which influences energy-intensive industries and raises energy prices.

What will motivate local actors is the potential of changing their existing business model based on a new functional Socioeconomic system. What will derive energy transition is market forces which will be shaped by a functional Socioeconomic system. The core of establishing this system is the collective efforts of domestic actors in all nations.

National governments have started to change their initiatives to better address domestic climate change governance. This is illustrated in the following picture.

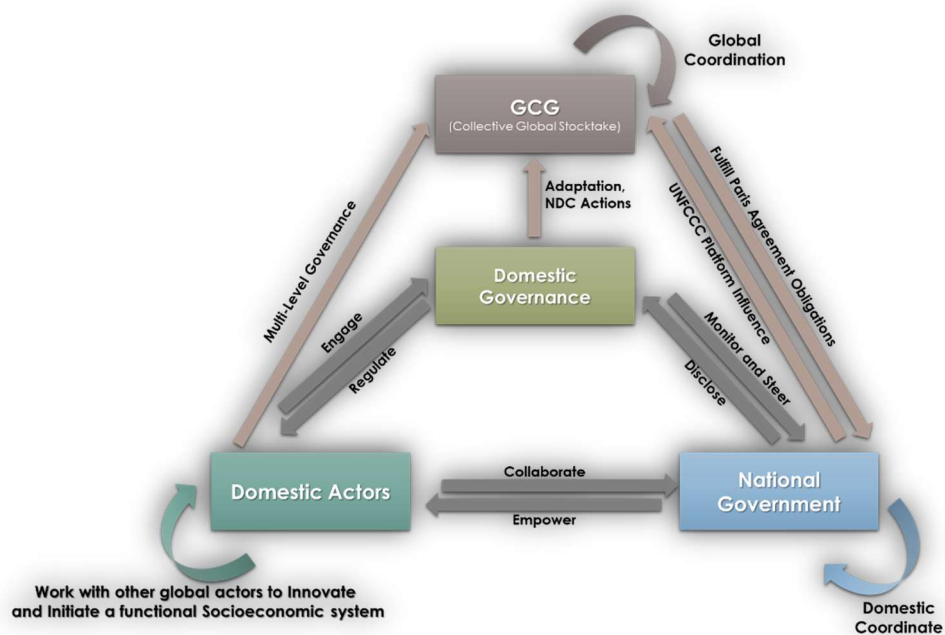


FIGURE 1: THE LINKAGES BETWEEN DOMESTIC ACTORS AND GLOBAL CLIMATE GOVERNANCE: SOURCE: AUTHUR

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodology is to review multidisciplinary literature to consolidate research to answer the question about the effectiveness of current GCG to forge a global functional Socioeconomic system that is able to factor in local circumstances.

## EXPECTED OUTCOME

The success of the Current GCG hinges on the assumption that domestic actors will act responsibly. The aim of this paper has been modest: to redirect academic and policy attention to the coming issue between GCG and climate change domestic governance and to the options for enhancing coordination. I will postulate that motivating domestic actors to act vulnerably is perplexing. The right mix between market forces, technological innovation, and governmental policies.