SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL

3 billion people rely on polluting fuels and technologies for cooking

1.1 billion people have no access to electricity

The share of renewable energy in the world’s total final energy consumption has increased slowly, from 17.4 per cent in 2000 to 18.1 per cent in 2012.

DEFINITIONS

Sustainable energy means using energy sources that are 1) renewable: they can be used again and again 2) clean: they don’t pollute the atmosphere 3) affordable: even by the poorest in society, and 4) reliable: they produce energy wherever and whenever it is needed.

In practice, this means using energy sources such as sun, wind, and water. These are sources that will never run out and which do not pollute the atmosphere. In contrast, fuels such as coal and oil will run out fast at the rate we are using them, and also pollute the atmosphere. Renewable energy sources were thought of as too expensive and unreliable in the past, but technology has gotten better over time and they are now becoming less expensive and more reliable. However, at present, for our energy to be renewable, clean, AND affordable and reliable, we still use a mixture of renewable and non-renewable sources.

TARGETS

By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services

By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix

By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency

By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology

By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing states, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support

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