



Monthly Sustainability Newsletter

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

November 2017, Vol. 1, Issue 10

Dear members, partners and friends,

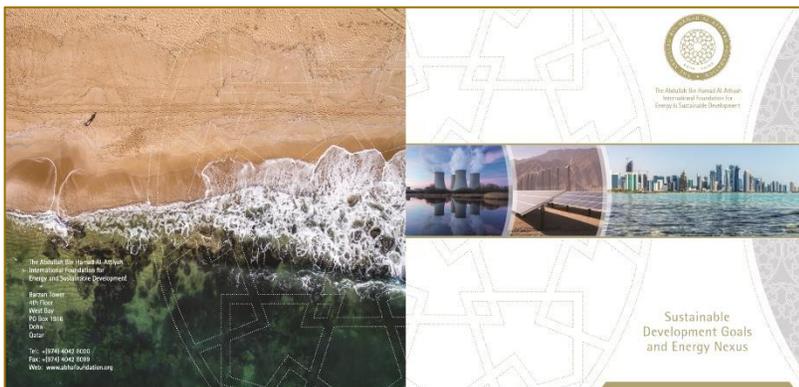
It is my pleasure to introduce the November issue of the Monthly Sustainability Newsletter from the Al-Attiyah Foundation. This issue is devoted to the role of energy as a stand-alone goal on energy (SDG 7) in the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Energy is the golden thread that connects economic growth, increases social equity and creates an environment that allows the world to thrive. Development is not possible without energy and sustainable development is not possible without sustainable energy. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015, provide a powerful framework for international cooperation to achieve both development and climate objectives. These SDGs underpin the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Agenda 2030) that officially came into force in January 2016. They define a path to end poverty, ensure prosperity and protect the planet and its inhabitants. Sustainable Energy holds significant importance to society and to achieving these development goals.

In this month's issue we examine global developments and progress since the adoption of a dedicated stand-alone goal on energy, in 2015 as part of Agenda 2030.

Book Launch

'The Sustainable Development Goals and Energy Nexus'



Upcoming Events

Dec 5 CEO Roundtable Series 6

TBC CEO Roundtable Series 7

May 6th Annual Energy Awards

Important Announcement

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CEO Roundtable Series 6

“Energy Outlook to the Year Ahead”

Date: 5th December 2017

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This Month's Highlights

Energy and Sustainable Development.

Development towards SDG7.

Progress toward Sustainable Energy.

Energy's Role for the Future.

Energy and Sustainable Development

The central role of sustainable energy only came to the fore of the global development debate in the process of implementation and review of the Millennium Development Goals which were adopted in 2000. The absence of an energy goal had been one of the key limitations of the MDGs. Two years later, the international community publicly acknowledged the link between sustainable energy and poverty reduction at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. Not long thereafter, UN-Energy was founded to facilitate coherent action on energy across the UN system. A growing body of empirical evidence and extensive cross-sectoral dialogue established a compelling rationale for increased access to clean energy to achieve the MDGs. This process culminated in the creation of the SE4ALL initiative in 2011, and the formalisation of the global energy agenda. Finally, in December 2014, the UN General Assembly proposed a set of SDGs that included a dedicated stand-alone goal on energy, SDG7. The goal aims to “Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.” SDG7 was among the 17 UN SDGs that were formally adopted in 2015 as part of Agenda 2030.

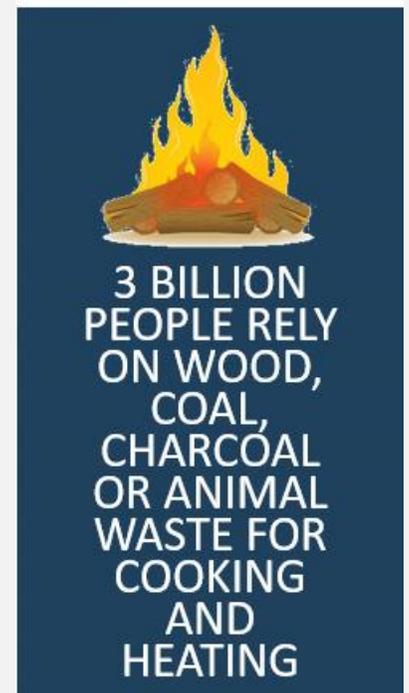
Developments towards SDG7

The following are just a few examples of progress around the world towards SDG 7 since its formal adoption in 2015 as part of Agenda 2030.

- Increased investment has been seen in the three principal target areas of SDG7: energy access, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. Since 2015 substantial backing to support the tracking and knowledge aspects of the SDGs has been introduced through a series of programs. Some of these include the Global Tracking Framework (GTF), the State of Energy Access Report (SEAR), and the Readiness for Investment in Sustainable Energy (RISE) under the World Bank organisation. These are all initiatives designed at aiding progress with regard to SDG7 by reviewing and tracking investments.
- Governments worldwide are aiming to attract private investors to build large-scale renewable energy plants. Many governments lack the purchasing power of bigger emerging markets where strong competition has driven down renewable energy prices to virtual parity with oil, gas, and coal-fired electricity. Technical assistance, templates for documents, pre-approved financing, insurance products, and guarantees are now readily available to aid governments aiming to undertake such projects. This takes the guesswork out of whether a solar project is viable and bankable for both governments and investors.
- Focus on development in developing countries, particularly in Africa, has been seen in abundance with such funding as the Clean Technology Fund (CTF) and Scaling-Up Renewable Energy Program (SREP) of the Climate Investment Funds (CIF). These funds provide support for energy



Energy Facts



Source: www.un.org

sector projects in the region. Overall, funding allocated to Africa is \$750 million from the CTF and \$404 million from the SREP.

- The Lighting Africa is another program supporting real energy service delivery through portable and fixed-point solar power production in developing countries. The program has reached 14 million people in under 6 years and the market is growing at 141% annually. Lighting Africa operates in 12 countries, has 47 quality-verified products currently in the market, and has helped catalyse the commercial market.
- In Mexico, climate finance and Global Environmental Facility support have helped implement a program for replacing over 25 million inefficient light bulbs with CFLs, and almost two million old refrigerators with new, highly efficient ones, all targeted to low-income households.
- In China, market-based approaches support the improvement of energy efficiency, such as the ESCO concept and energy efficiency financing credit lines. China has embarked on one of the most aggressive energy conservation campaigns in the world—the energy efficiency market is estimated to be around US\$75 billion already.
- Implemented as a public-private partnership, the solar home system (SHS) program in Bangladesh is currently installing over 70,000 SHS every month, making it the fastest growing program of its kind in the world. Three million systems have already been installed with support of development partners providing electricity to 18 million people in the country.
- With the support of Climate Investment Funds, Morocco launched the first phase of a concentrated solar power (CSP) plant. When fully operational, the plant will produce enough electricity for more than one million Moroccan households. *(Source: www. worldbank.org)*

Progress Toward Sustainable Energy

Electrification:

Although access to electricity globally continues to climb there has been a slight slowdown from previous years. 1.06 billion people – about three times the population of the United States – still lived without access to electricity; despite the fact that 86 million people are newly getting electricity every year. Access to electricity in Africa is not growing as rapidly as its population. But countries like Kenya, Malawi, Sudan, Uganda, and Zambia and Rwanda, in particular, have increased their electrification by 2 to 4 percentage points annually.

Cooking:

Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking has also climbed slightly. However, 3.04 billion people – about nine times the population of the United States – still live without access to clean cooking. The bulk of these people live in Asia, and to a lesser extent Africa.



Targets for 2030



Enhance International Cooperation to Facilitate Access to Clean Energy Research & Technology.



Expand Infrastructure & Upgrade Technology for Supplying Modern and Sustainable Energy Services for all in Developing Countries

Source: www.un.org



Energy efficiency:

Energy efficiency is the one area where progress has accelerated, leading to substantial global energy savings. Some of the world highest energy consumers have reduced their energy intensity substantially over recent years with countries like China, Mexico, Nigeria and the Russian Federation showing more than a 2.6 percent reduction annually. Driving progress in energy efficiency is from strong performance from a number of major energy consuming sectors, in particular industry. Progress in transport is also encouraging as widespread adoption of fuel efficiency standards helps to drive down energy intensity particularly for passenger transportation.

Renewable energy:

Overall, progress is continuously modest on this front, with the share of renewable energy in the world's total final energy consumption increasing each year. While new power generation technologies such as wind and solar are growing rapidly – representing a third of the expansion in renewable energy consumption – they are growing from a very small base. The challenge is to increase reliance on renewable energy in the heat and transport sectors, which account for 80 percent of global energy consumption. How rapidly the world's 20 largest energy consumers meet demand with modern renewables is key to reaching this goal.

(Source: www.sdgresources.relx.com)

Energy's Role for the Future

The year 2015 went down in history as a major landmark in the global development agenda. The endorsement of the Sustainable Development goals and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Paris Agreement will undoubtedly have a major transformative effect on the fight against climate change and on the global development agenda for years to come. Achieving this requires not just incremental improvements, but a transformation of our key systems such as energy, production, consumption, livelihoods, and equality. The reality is that we still have a long way to go. In 2012, about 1.1 billion people did not have access to electricity. While that was down from around 1.2 billion people in 2010, it still represents 15% of the world's population. Also in 2012, about 2.9 billion people did not have access to non-solid fuels as a primary source for cooking. That's equivalent to 36% of the global population. Energy is closely interlinked with economic development, human health and well-being, environmental health and security – virtually all the development goals the global community has set for itself. Clean, sustainable energy services thus permeate all these overlapping areas of human life, and either directly or indirectly help accomplish each of the development goals.

(Source: www.un.org)

Journal Reference

[https:// www.un.org](https://www.un.org)
[https:// www.worldbank.org](https://www.worldbank.org)
[http:// www.sdgresources.relx.com](http://www.sdgresources.relx.com)
[http:// www.irena.org](http://www.irena.org)

Information

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Targets for 2030



Increase Substantially the Share of Renewable Energy in the Global Energy Mix



Ensure Universal Access to Affordable, Reliable and Modern Energy Services

x2
Double the Global Rate of Improvement in Energy Efficiency

Source: www.worldbank.org